

APULIFE

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Summer 2012 | Volume 25 | Number 2

A RESPONSIBLE REVOLUTION ■ DARK MATTER ■ UNITY IN DIVERSITY

a gravitational pull

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF ART





During a recent morning visit to Starbucks, I became reacquainted with the Law of Unintended Consequences—the phenomenon when something goes awry after a well-intended decision.

I must admit that although the coffee is great, the real reason I stop more often than not is because of the warm, welcoming community. As I stand in line, the barista knows my order and usually has it waiting for me by the time I reach the register. I quickly pay and head to the cream. Then, coffee in hand, I move on to face the challenges and opportunities of a new day.

As I drove to work after my familiar routine on this particular day, I realized that I left my wallet, cell phone, and reading glasses neatly stacked in the corner of the cream station. The choice I made to seek out an authentic and genuine community and a good cup of coffee had left me with that unintended consequence. When I discovered this, I raced back to learn that my community of friends had already rescued my belongings. In this case, the Law of Unintended Consequences had delivered a few anxious moments, but a benign outcome. This, of course, is not always the case.

Like me, many of you have also experienced the Law of Unintended Consequences on a much more profound level when it deals a setback to family, vocation, ministry, or plans for the future. We find ourselves second-guessing the decision that led us down a particular path. Sometimes we even wonder what we will do at the next decision point. And yet, right there in the middle of tough circumstances, our Maker meets us, placing His reassuring hand upon us, letting us know that we are not alone, that our path has purpose, that each experience brings learning, that each consequence delivers the opportunity to draw closer to Him. In this way, He prepares us to face the next important decision with wisdom and discernment.

Azusa Pacific University and our Christ-centered mission exist because we believe that the cornerstones of Christ, Scholarship, Community, and Service can be used to prepare students to make those big life decisions with confidence and faith. Under the Lordship of Christ and the authority of Scripture, we strive for the highest standard of excellence in higher education as we do life together. We believe that rigorous study, intellectual curiosity, and professional preparation form the building blocks of a life with remarkable opportunities. We want our students to discover in their pursuit of scholarship, in their growing spiritual life, in acts of service, and within the context of a robust and healthy community, a deep and abiding faith that can handle the challenges of life.

At the center of the APU mission lies the unwavering belief that this defining choice makes all the difference: the choice every person has whether to embrace or reject the redeeming love of Jesus Christ. My sincere hope for every student is that an APU education opens the door of faith and deepens a Christ-centered belief able to withstand any consequence, intended or unintended.

Warmly,

Jon R. Wallace
Jon
Facing consequences with faith

“At the center of the APU mission lies the unwavering belief that this defining choice makes all the difference: the choice every person has whether to embrace or reject the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.”

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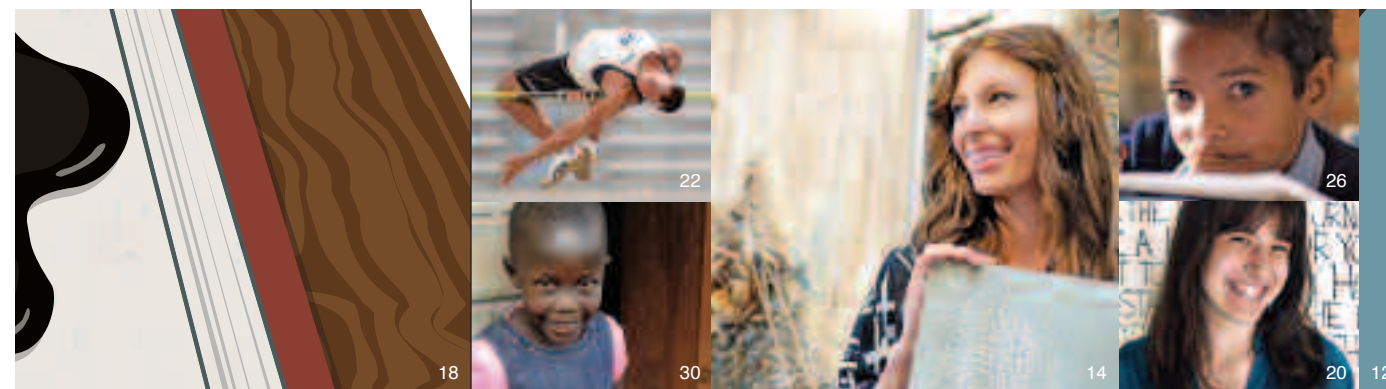
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APU Life (ISSN 0895-5433) is published quarterly by Azusa Pacific University, 901 E. Alosta Ave., PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000, www.apu.edu, (626) 969-3434.
Periodicals class postage paid at Azusa, CA 91702, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *APU Life*, Azusa Pacific University, ATTN: Office of University Advancement, PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000.
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FEATURES

- 12** **A Responsible Revolution**
by Matt Browning
- 14** **A Gravitational Pull**
by Evelyn Barge
- 18** **Dark Matter**
by David D. Esselstrom
- 20** **Unity in Diversity**
by Caitlin Gipson
- 22** **Unchanged**
by Joe Reinsch
- 26** **Touch of Freedom**
by Shannon Linton
- 30** **Her Best for the Least**
by Becky Keife


Cover photo of Matthew Ellis, MFA '13, by evokephotography.com

DEPARTMENTS

- 2** President's Letter
- 6** Campus Close Up
- 24** Cougars Sports Roundup
- 25** Alumni and Parent News and Notes
- 28** Class Notes
- 28** Cougar Interview
Anders Lindwall '08 and Ricky Staub '06
- 34** Where in the World . . . ?
- 35** Archived



PHOTOS BY BRANDON HOOK '12

 Contribute your best photos of campus—people and places, events and spaces—that showcase APU. Go to www.flickr.com/groups/azusapacific to submit today.

The APU Athletics Department invited basketball alumni who played for Coach Bill Odell and Coach Cliff Hamlow to return to their *alma mater* for men's basketball games on January 14 and February 25, respectively. Special receptions before the games allowed past players to reminisce and reconnect with one another and their coaches. During the games that followed, current players wore throwback uniforms. At halftime, past players met at center court honoring Coach Hamlow's 1956–64 teams (pictured above) marking the beginning of APU basketball, and Coach Odell's 1992–93 team signaling the start of the Odell era.

Theology, Work, and Economics Project Receives Significant Support

The Kern Family Foundation awarded APU a \$250,000 grant funding the Theology, Work, and Economics (TOWE) project. Previously funded by smaller grants, the project began two years ago to explore the relationship between Christian faith, work, and the economy and to provide universities and churches with resources to encourage and equip Christians to live out their faith at work. The project, which originated with Paul Shrier, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Practical Theology and TOWE project director, involves nine other APU professors serving on the steering committee as well as additional professors, alumni, and graduate students participating in the project’s research. Previous research encompassed focus groups and interviews with 24 working Christians, including a major movie producer, teachers, entrepreneurs, child therapists, and a police officer, to create a video-based, six-week small-group curriculum titled *Christians in the Workplace*.

The Kern grant, which helped develop two colloquia and an interdisciplinary retreat, supports the next step in the research project—studying Christian professors’ and church leaders’ attitudes regarding the relationships between faith, work, and the economy. Part of the grant will fund the production of a feature-length documentary that includes interviews with various Christian professionals. Ralph Winter, producer of four *X-Men* movies, *Planet of the Apes*, *Mighty Joe Young*, and many other films, will produce the 88-minute documentary, aimed at 18–35-year-olds.

“Through this project, we hope to gain an understanding of how people’s Christian faith influences their views on their work and on the economy as a whole, including questions of what it means to be a Christian employer, employee, or entrepreneur, and how the current unemployment rate, shift to part-time jobs, and other factors in the economy impact our beliefs,” said Shrier.

“This grant represents a great opportunity to partner with the

Kern Foundation in balancing these concerns for Christians today,” said Don Thorsen, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Theology and Ethics, professor in the Graduate School of Theology, and faculty member involved with the project. “We hope the grant will help the Graduate School of Theology become more integrated and holistic in its preparation of men and women for clerical and lay positions of leadership in churches. We already think the university does an excellent job in preparing ministers, and the Kern grant will only help us improve our training.”

Goals include establishing a Center for Theology, Work, and Economics as well as developing a master’s degree program for church leaders. To learn more about TOWE, visit www.christiansintheworkplace.com.

School Psychology Program Receives Prestigious Accreditation

The School of Education’s Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology with the School Psychology Credential program received accreditation from the prestigious National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) in February. The four-year accreditation process involved a comprehensive realignment with NASP training standards, including a self-study that allowed program leaders to evaluate coursework, practicum, and fieldwork/ internship requirements.

“The remarkable accomplishment of the NASP accreditation exemplifies the high quality of the graduate programs in the Department of School Counseling and School Psychology,” said Anita Henck, Ph.D., dean of the School of Education. “It is a tribute to the collaboration between our dedicated faculty, and we are grateful for the department’s strong commitment to academic and professional excellence.”

With 200 approved programs nationwide, APU stands as the only evangelical Christian university on the West Coast to receive this distinction. This affirmation sets APU graduates apart from other candidates by making them eligible to become Nationally Certified School Psychologists (NCSP), a certification recognized in more than 30 states. Offered at the Azusa campus as well as the Orange County and Inland Empire regional centers, the program currently enrolls 60 students. Program graduates emerge as highly marketable and competitively qualified to serve as professional school counselors in a public school setting.

“Unlike many other programs nationwide, APU’s program infuses a faith-based perspective in the development of competent school psychologists,” said Pedro Olvera, Psy.D., director of the School Psychology program. “School psychologists are experts in the areas of disability and mental health in school systems. Through our program, we seek to train compassionate practitioners that can make a positive impact on students and schools.”

President Recognizes Azusa Pacific on Community Service Honor Roll

Azusa Pacific University earned a position on the 2012 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. APU stands as 1 of only 29 California schools selected for this distinction.

“This achievement affirms the ways in which service-learning and civic engagement, both locally and globally, fulfill APU’s mission as our students live out our *God First* legacy,” said Judy Hutchinson, Ph.D., executive director of the Center for Academic

Service-Learning and Research. “With more than 3,000 APU students engaged in academic service-learning, we link the university with the community in mutually beneficial ways, and build positive, reciprocal relationships between APU and the local private and public sectors,” said Hutchinson.

Working with 100 community partners through 145 courses that intentionally integrate service into the curricula, APU delivers more than 50 service-learning programs. These include College-Headed and Mighty Proud (C.H.A.M.P.), celebrating its 20th anniversary of introducing the idea of college to 700 fourth graders from six local elementary schools each year. In addition, Azusa Reads, Azusa Writes, Azusa Counts, and Azusa Calculates offer free weekly tutoring with APU students assisting nearly 300 youth

annually. Furthermore, the Neighborhood Wellness Center, staffed with APU nursing students and faculty, provides no-cost health services to more than 2,000 annual visitors.

Alongside local efforts, APU impacts the global community through international outreach, with more than two dozen mission teams commissioned through the Office of World Missions and the community engagement course featured in the South Africa Semester.

APU Celebrates Brain Awareness Week

Azusa Pacific University participated in its first celebration of Brain Awareness Week (BAW) March 12–18, advancing public awareness of the brain and neuroscience research. Universities and organizations in more than 82 countries celebrate BAW, first recognized in 1996.

APU hosted the first-ever Brain Awareness Fair at Center Middle School in Azusa, giving 250 seventh graders the chance to engage in hands-on activities teaching them about the brain. Some of the activities, developed in part by 28 APU senior neurobiology students, included viewing mice, sheep, and human brains; seeing and hearing the electrical signals of neurons in a live cockroach leg; using Fatal Vision Goggles to simulate the effects of alcohol and drugs on the brain’s use of sight, motor ability, and reaction time; and participating in an egg drop to illustrate the importance of helmet safety.

“By presenting science in a fun, interactive way, we hoped to inspire some of these middle school students to pursue science majors in college,” said Skyla Herod, Ph.D., assistant professor in APU’s Department of Biology and Chemistry and the Brain Awareness

Week organizer. “I am really excited to be organizing activities for Brain Awareness Week for the first time at APU. Our university now joins other prestigious Southern California institutions in showcasing our students, collaborating with research efforts, and serving the community through educational outreach.”

APU also hosted a series of three lectures by noted neuroscientists: Robert Bilder, Ph.D., director of the Michael E. Tennenbaum Center for the Biology of Creativity and a professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; Pat Levitt, Ph.D., USC’s director of the Zilkha Neurogenetics Institute and chair of the Department of Cell and Neurobiology at the Keck School of

continued on page 8



Reading Recommendations from Jennifer Walsh

Democracy in America by Alexis de Tocqueville, translated by Arthur Goldhammer (Library of America, 2004)

The Death of Ivan Ilych and Other Stories by Leo Tolstoy (Signet Classic, 2003)

The Road by Cormac McCarthy (Alfred A. Knopf, 2006)

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro (Alfred A. Knopf, 2005)

The Housekeeper and the Professor by Yoko Ogawa, translated by Stephen Snyder (Picador, 2009)

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APU Community Reasons Together at Common Day of Learning

The 20th Annual William E. and Ernest L. Boyer Common Day of Learning (CDL), a campus-wide multidisciplinary conference dedicated to the advancement of scholarship and learning, enabled faculty, staff, and students to share their recent academic discoveries. The university shuts down all regular activities and cancels all classes, allowing the entire community to participate in the unique tradition. Held on March 7, CDL featured more than 75 scholarly sessions, involved 220 presenters from nearly every department, and

included individual and group seminars, discussion, and poster sessions, reflecting Isaiah 1:18 and this year’s theme, “Let Us Reason Together.”

Keynote speaker Timothy Dalrymple, Ph.D., shared insights from theologian Søren Kierkegaard in his keynote address, “The Ladder of Thorns: Finding God in a Life of Suffering.” Attendees benefited from his reflections on the often-perplexing relationship between human suffering and divine love. Dalrymple serves as the director of content for Patheos.com, a multifaith website that

facilitates a marketplace of religious ideas, and managing editor of its Evangelical Christianity Portal.

Students chose from captivating sessions throughout the day. Thomas Parham, Ph.D., acting co-chair and professor in the Department of Theater, Film, and Television, hosted such a panel composed of guest television writers, directors, and producers to examine the value of television programming in “Television: Wasteland or Bully Pulpit?”

“I hope students will realize television has entered a new golden age and that the medium has become a destination for acclaimed storytellers like Martin Scorsese, J.J. Abrams, and Jonathan Nolan. Also, a hit television series like *NCIS* can average nearly 20 million viewers a week, far surpassing the number of moviegoers who see the top film in any given week,” said Parham. “Common Day of Learning is a great opportunity for the APU community to come together and explore issues related to a universal theme. It’s a highlight of the spring semester and one I look forward to every year.”

Student presenters valued the opportunity to present research to peers about topics that spark their passion. In

“Celebrating Excellence in Undergraduate Research: Winning Entries from the Fourth Annual Honors Paper Competition,” Heather Murphy ’12, an art major and Honors Program student, presented her paper, “From Sacred to Modern: The Community Roles of Exiled Tibetan Artists.”

“This important forum enabled me to share about this group’s struggling identity, sparking new interest in the subject,” said Murphy.

“For the past 20 years, the CDL conference has highlighted the significant and important scholarship that takes place in our classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and community on a daily basis,” said Jennifer E. Walsh, Ph.D., associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, professor of political science, and CDL faculty director. “CDL gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on how our commitment to academic excellence has transformed lives and the world around us.”

continued from page 7

Medicine; and Warren Brown, Ph.D., director of the Travis Research Institute and professor of psychology in the Department of Clinical Psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Geared toward nonscientific audiences and including a question-and-answer session, lecture topics spanned the brain's role in creativity, public policy development, and relationship to the human soul.

Throughout BAW, booths on Cougar Walk were staffed by neurobiology students educating the Azusa Pacific community on current brain research.

“More and more schools participate in Brain Awareness Week. It's exciting that APU now takes part in this significant event by helping to educate both the university community and the local community about the brain,” said David Weeks, Ph.D., dean of the College



Graduating Difference Makers

Celebrating the successful academic and spiritual journey of more than 1,300 students, the 2012 Azusa Pacific University Commencement ceremonies on May 5 conferred degrees upon 684 undergraduate, 491 graduate, and 153 adult and professional studies students. These new APU alumni now enter the next phase of their lives equipped not only with increased earning potential and marketability in the workplace, but also the invaluable advantages of whole-student development, faith integration, intercultural experiences, and research opportunities.

Encouraging the graduates as they prepare to become difference makers for Christ, Shauna Niequist, author of *Bittersweet* and daughter of well-known Willow Creek Community Church Senior Pastor Bill Hybels, spoke at both ceremonies. A favorite APU Chapel speaker among the students, Niequist addressed the graduating classes at the request of the Student Government Association. Niequist, who writes and speaks about the beautiful and broken moments of everyday life—friendship,

family, faith, food, marriage, love, babies, books, celebration, heartache, and all things that reveal the heart of God—addressed “Forces of Nature,” illustrating important life lessons for students reaching this milestone.

Another Commencement highlight was the culmination of four simultaneous years at APU for the Abella quadruplets. While each experienced APU differently and chose a unique academic path, these undergraduates graduated side by side as their parents, both Salvation Army ministers, watched with pride. Daniel, a business/marketing major; David, a graphic design major; Sarah, an athletic training major; and Naomi, a global studies major, all expressed gratitude for their time spent on campus, living and learning together. “Each of us grew in our faith at APU,” said Daniel. “We discovered who we were as individuals while maintaining our close bond. The college years have been an incredible journey, and Commencement is a mile marker for the four of us. We reached this goal together, which amazes us all.”

of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “We look forward to this becoming an annual event and a stepping stone toward courses and programs in neuroscience that are becoming increasingly popular among students and scholars.”

WASC Visit Inspires New Look at Transformational Scholarship

As the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation review nears completion with the Educational Effectiveness Review (EER) slated for October 10–12, 2012, the APU community gears up to present evidence of progress toward supporting its goals of faith integration, God-honoring diversity, intentional internationalization, and transformational scholarship.

Focusing on transformational scholarship, theme leader Laurie A. Schreiner, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Doctoral Higher Education, approached the task of defining and qualifying the concept by first establishing the context. “Growth characterizes APU,” she said of the university's ever-expanding facilities, diverse student body and faculty, academic programs, and reputation. “Therefore, transformation is part of who we are as a growing faith-based institution. When that growth earned APU the Carnegie designation as a doctoral research university, we entered a prestigious academic community, but we differentiated ourselves by keeping our focus on teaching and developing research inspired by the needs of the world and informed by our faith.”

Forsaking the idea of research for the sake of research, APU breaks the mold of standard practice in academia, and measures the value of research by its ability to transform those involved. Sponsored by the Faculty Research Council, Schreiner and a team of faculty members conducted a yearlong study of APU's most productive research scholars to discover the impact of faculty scholarship as well as the merit of the transformational scholarship concept. Defining this concept as research that

makes a difference, the study revealed several benefits to this focus.

First, it impacts students by changing the way they see the world and engage in critical thinking. They process information differently and ask better questions, which makes them more effective scholars.

Second, it values partnerships between professors and students, which, in turn, enriches the student/teacher relationship and the overall educational experience. At the undergraduate level, this elevates the students' confidence and sense of value as partners in the process, and at the graduate level, provides essential research experience typically reserved for elite scholars at other institutions.

Third, participation in meaningful research energizes the faculty and invigorates their teaching with a fresh passion. It integrates APU faculty into the broader academy in a way that would not be possible if they focused solely on teaching. Involvement in cutting-edge scholarship transforms their curricula, classrooms, and students.

Fourth, when faculty members engage in significant research, it has the potential to change their discipline. For example, English professor Emily Griesinger, Ph.D., explores the way her faith impacts her scholarship and vice versa by examining literature and critical theory through a faith lens that offers a new perspective to her discipline.

Finally, this unique approach to research transforms APU by increasing its visibility in the academy, enhancing its academic reputation, and creating opportunities to impact the surrounding community and the world.

With goals on the horizon to increase student/faculty research partnerships with paid summer opportunities for undergraduate students, to aim for one graduate research assistant for every faculty member, and to provide research mentors for new faculty, APU stands poised to change the way higher education views scholarship at the intersection of teaching and research.

By the Numbers

2,600: The cash amount of a competitive fellowship granted to both Diana Glycer, Ph.D., professor in the Department of English, and Jacqueline Winston, Ph.D., assistant professor of theology and philosophy, to participate in a seminar for college professors titled Teaching Peace and Reconciliation: Theory and Practice in Northern Ireland. This prestigious award also covers the scholars' travel and living expenses during the three-week summer intensive. The seminar addresses the history of the Anglo-Irish conflict in Ireland, the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, and the resulting move to a post-conflict society.

4,000: The dollar amount of the grant awarded by Target to Roxanne Helm-Stevens, DBA, chair of graduate management programs in the School of Business and Management, to provide four \$1,000 scholarships to students in the Young Executive Master of Arts in Management program. Target executives visit a class to present a current performance improvement objective for the company. Students then compete to develop the most innovative strategy, with the four who present the best projects receiving the scholarship.

50,730: The total dollars granted by the Upper San Gabriel Valley Water District to underwrite the installation of artificial turf on Adams Field. APU stands as the first institute of higher education to be awarded a grant under the six-year-old program that provides money to schools to replace grass with water-saving turf.

3: The date in May when Men's Chorale performed at the internationally televised National Day of Prayer Breakfast at the Cannon House Office Building in Washington, DC, as the special guest choir. The 100-voice ensemble, under the direction of Harold Clousing, performed for a packed audience, including members of Congress, and later, in the Capitol Rotunda.

26.2: The number of miles Keith Reeves, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Biblical Studies, and Larry Handy, interlibrary loan coordinator and stacks manager, completed in the Huntington Beach Surf City Marathon on February 5, along with 12 students. Some students participated as part of the, Fitness for Life: Marathon class, and others, just for fun.

495: The course number for the one-time-only art class Design a Chapel, which explores collaborative design concepts for sacred spaces and social engagement. This course connects APU and Biola University students with international artists and designers, philanthropists Roberta and Howard Ahmanson, and the Double R Ranch and the Village of Hope (both owned and operated by the Orange County Rescue Mission).

28: The number of Focus International short-term mission teams commissioned by the Office of World Missions on April 21. This summer, the teams travel to 23 countries, sharing the Gospel with the world in response to the Great Commission and Great Commandment.



APU Helps Keep History Alive

A total of 330 teachers from Los Angeles County public, private, and parochial schools received grants this year from APU's Keeping History Alive (KHA) program, an initiative designed to strengthen K–12 history and social science education. The program, started in 2004 by Thomas Andrews, Ph.D., professor of history and research historian for special collections, has awarded a total of \$785,079 to 1,084 teachers over a seven-year period. This year, the program reached 82 more teachers than last year, including 6 from St. Frances of Rome School in Azusa.

Program leaders look forward to reaching the milestone of \$1 million awarded to history teachers in 2013.

The grants, which fund classroom resources, field trips, on-campus presentations, and professional development, allow students to experience history in a variety of creative and innovative ways that promote learning and retention more than traditional teaching methods alone. Field trips that familiarize students with their community, computers that provide Internet access, and cameras,

projectors, and other resources that make lessons dynamic, combine to make teaching and learning history an interactive, hands-on adventure. “In past years, I have received grants to pay for field trips, a laptop for my classroom, funds for a colonial day on campus, and costumes for our fifth-grade play, *The Thirteen Colonies*,” said Karen Batista, a teacher at Cullen Elementary School in neighboring Glendora. “The KHA grant is such a great opportunity to obtain resources for the classroom and to use the funds for professional development.”

“History includes art, music, drama, and artifacts, all of which can be found in biographies, journals, novels, and films. By providing a variety of classroom resources that explore these subjects, students get excited about learning and become aware of themselves as historical beings,” said Andrews. “Such a classroom makes students proactive participants in developing historical understanding, including the complexity, mystery, and adventure of history.”

Teachers received their grants in an APU awards ceremony on January 28 that also honored Lee Walcott, vice president and managing director emeritus of the Ahmanson Foundation, with the university's Cornerstone Award for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement, recognizing his early and continued support of KHA. Other program supporters include the Helen and Will Webster Foundation and the Canyon City Foundation.

“Keeping History Alive allows schools to supplement social studies programs with a variety of cultural texts and enrichment programs,” said Cheri Bailiff, a teacher at St. John Fisher School in Rancho Palos Verdes. “In our current economic situation, budget cuts have severely crippled teachers and administrators from enhancing their curriculum, but KHA allows educators to make progress.”



APU DEPARTMENT OF THEATER, FILM, AND TELEVISION

Theater Program Honored by Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) selected a scene from Azusa Pacific’s production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* for inclusion in its Evening of Invited Scenes, this year’s regional festival, on February 7. As 1 of 8 participants selected from 50 nominees,

the scene featured APU students Shayfer Wayne ’12 and Devon Uy ’13. Held at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, the event attracted more than 1,000 students, faculty, and guest artists from universities throughout Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, and Guam.

Bart McHenry, dean of fine arts and media technology at Saddleback College and founding chair of APU’s Department of Theater, Film, and Television, directed APU’s production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* in October 2011. “It’s a musical comedy that takes place in 1929 with a modern-day narrator,” said McHenry, who directed 18 musicals at APU. “I was very proud of our students for studying and mastering the comedic timing of vaudeville acting, which was nicely juxtaposed by the dialogue of the contemporary narrator. I am pleased the Department of Theater, Film, and Television earned this distinction, and I hope that the recognition will bring additional awareness to the consistently outstanding

work performed on the APU stage.”

The KCACTF, comprising a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country, provides theater departments and student artists with the opportunity to showcase their work and receive outside assessment by KCACTF respondents. It encourages, recognizes, and celebrates the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theater programs.

“The recognition by the KCACTF is a great honor and reflects our students’ hard work,” said Monica Ganas, Ph.D., co-chair and professor in the Department of Theater, Film, and Television. “This is an exciting indication of how far our program has come.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JONATHAN YOUNG AND LONG BEACH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Music Ensembles Perform at Major Events

The University Choir and Orchestra (UCO), directed by John Sutton, DMA, appeared with the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra (LBSO) POPS! on February 25 at the Long Beach Arena. The group performed music from Alan Lerner and

Frederick Loewe, including songs from the musicals *My Fair Lady*, *Camelot*, and *Gigi*. LBSO, conducted by Steven Reineke, involves some of Hollywood’s most sought-after musicians. The evening also featured guest solo artists

Susan Egan, the original Belle in the Broadway production of Disney’s *Beauty and the Beast*, and well-known concert soloists Chad Johnson and Christopher Johnstone.

“Performing with such a significant orchestra as the LBSO provides great visibility for UCO and the university as a whole,” said Sutton. “This venue gave us the opportunity to reach an audience of music lovers and deepen our understanding about how to minister to a secular audience through songs about life. It also gave students the unique chance to perform at a professional venue with Broadway stars.”

The following day, APU’s 100-voice Men’s Chorale, under the direction of Harold Clousing, performed at the Celebration of Freedom Gala, honoring 35 Congressional Medal of Honor

recipients, at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley. The ensemble sang *America the Beautiful*, *God Bless America*, and *Bring Him Home* for approximately 750 guests, including Medal of Honor recipients, former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, retired United States Navy Admiral Michael Mullen, and actors Gary Sinise and Jon Voight.

“Being the premier group at such an esteemed event was a distinct honor,” said Clousing. “Our involvement not only brought recognition to the university, but also enabled our students to serve as ambassadors, introducing Men’s Chorale to the important guests in attendance while also showcasing their musical talent.”

APU—Any Way You Want It

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Download APU’s iPhone app and check out what’s happening on campus. You can even track the trolley via the Trolley Tracker app or on APU Mobile. www.apu.edu/mobile

Become a fan of APU on Facebook and watch videos, learn about upcoming events, and read up on current students’ experiences. www.facebook.com/azusapacific

View short films on APU alumni working to make a difference. youtube.com/universityrelations

Check out photos of university life from the Azusa Pacific Flickr group. www.flickr.com/groups/azusapacific

Receive updates on the latest APU news and events. www.twitter.com/azusapacific

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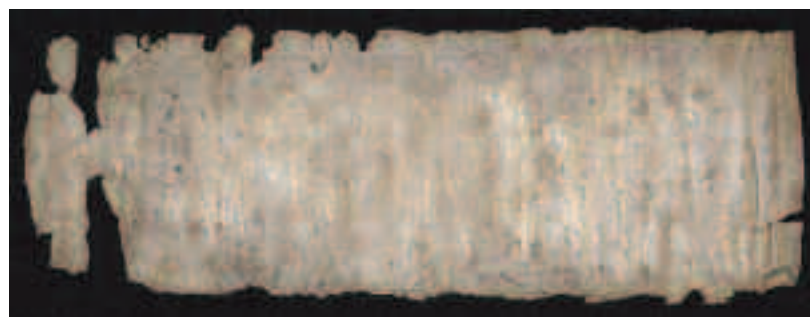


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GREEN COLLECTION

APU Participates in Green Scholars Initiative

Robert Duke, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Biblical Studies, along with two undergraduate students, Lance Baker ’12 and Andrew Wall ’12, became the first team of scholars at APU to collaborate with the Green Scholars Initiative (GSI). The GSI, an international research project, involves more than 30 institutions under the sponsorship of the Green Collection. Founded by the Green family, it represents the world’s newest and largest private collection of rare biblical texts and artifacts, comprising more than 40,000 biblical antiquities. The initiative brings established and young scholars together to pioneer groundbreaking biblical discoveries.

As part of the Ancient Languages class, Duke and his emerging scholars spent the spring semester studying a silver amulet estimated to be from the third or fourth century AD. The amulet, a scroll

of silver about the size of a playing card, contains Aramaic and Hebrew prayers for blessing and healing as well as the *Shema* from Deuteronomy 6. The study included transcribing, translating, and deciphering the text, and developing their own commentary on it for publication.

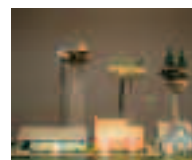
“Studying this item required us to draw from many different disciplines, such as linguistics, history, art, and others. It was a very holistic experience in which we relied on each other to add to the research,” said Duke. “It was an opportunity for Lance, Andrew, and me to be part of significant biblical research, and it gave both of them an extraordinary undergraduate academic experience. I look forward to APU becoming an integral part of GSI in the future, giving other students the opportunity to participate in this new scholarship, and training the next generation of scholars.”

“I’ve known the Green family for several years and am deeply thankful for their passion for advancing Christian biblical scholarship,” said T. Scott Daniels, Ph.D., dean of the APU School of Theology and senior pastor at Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene. “GSI has created an almost unprecedented opportunity for current and future scholars from multiple Christian institutions to gather around ancient texts to celebrate our shared past and imagine God’s providential future for His people. It is an honor for APU’s School of Theology to be in the thick of this important research and the ongoing scholarly conversation.”

The group primarily studied the amulet using digital images, but also viewed the piece in person and discussed their work with other scholars at a GSI lecture in Atlanta, Georgia, in February. “The GSI project has been an excellent opportunity to experience the academic side of biblical studies and a great opportunity to partner and network with excellent scholars,” said Baker, a biblical studies major.

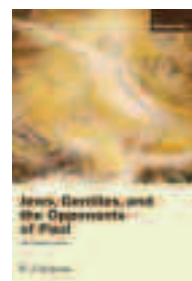
These scholars will also present their findings to the Society of Biblical Literature in Illinois this November at the society’s annual meeting, the largest gathering of biblical scholars in the world, becoming the first GSI team to present at this venue.

Scholarship at Work



Whimsical Art Trail (National Museum of Play, Rochester, New York, February 18–March 20) by *David Carlson, MFA, professor, Department of Art and Design*

Whimsical Art Trail, a national juried exhibition, featured work from contemporary artists. The diverse pieces included pea-sized puppets, soft sculptures, glass flowers, imaginative play scenes, and vividly colored African animals. Carlson, one of four artists selected for the exhibition, contributed two items from his ongoing body of work, “Play-Scapes,” comprising imaginative scenes created from old toys, small motors and gears, wood, wire, clay, and objects headed for the trash.



Jews, Gentiles, and the Opponents of Paul: Apostasy in the New Testament Communities, Volume Two—The Pauline Letters (Cascade Books, 2012) by *B.J. Oropeza, Ph.D., professor, Department of Biblical Studies*

Oropeza offers the most thorough examination in recent times of apostasy in the New Testament. The study examines each book of the New Testament with an approach that identifies the emerging Christian community in danger, the nature of apostasy that threatens the congregations, and the consequences of defection. He then compares the various perspectives of the communities to determine the ways in which they perceived apostasy and whether defectors could be restored. This second volume of a three-volume set focuses on the Christ communities of the undisputed and disputed Pauline letters.



Developing Helping Skills: A Step-by-Step Approach to Competency (Brooks Cole, 2012) by *Sheryn T. Scott, Ph.D., professor, Department of Graduate Psychology, second author with Valerie Nash Chang, Ph.D., and Carol L. Decker, Ph.D.*

Those preparing for careers in social work, psychology, counseling, marriage and family therapy, pastoral counseling, human services, or related helping professions will find a unique blend of fundamental skills and practical application exercises in this text. It integrates reading, discussion, observation and visualization, practice, and evaluation as it prepares professionals training for generalist practice with individuals, families, and groups. An available DVD visually demonstrates how to apply the learned skills.



China: Doing Business in the Middle Kingdom (Business Expert Press, 2012) by *Stuart C. Strother, Ph.D., professor, School of Business and Management*

This book introduces business travelers to key information about China that is essential for successful interactions with Chinese people and companies. It covers the history, economy, politics, philosophy, and culture of China, as well as matters of business practices, daily life, language, food, and recreation. Each topic is illustrated with anecdotes, many of them from the author’s firsthand experiences. While it may take a lifetime of study to fully understand the complexities of such an ancient society, this book is a useful first step down the path to competent engagement of the Middle Kingdom.

by MATT BROWNING

A RESPONSIBLE REVOLUTION

Simply put, I want to start a revolution at Azusa Pacific University. Not against the academy, the administration, or policies—I firmly believe our *God First* university is an amazing place, and I count myself blessed to be a part of advancing the Kingdom from here. Rather, I want to start a *Responsible Revolution* that challenges our students to think and act differently—to harness their natural inclination for social justice toward His eternal purposes.

I do not stand alone. Those who comprise the Center for Student Action, members of our administration, and so many students want to revolt against the obstacles that hold us back from

truly abandoning ourselves to King Jesus and His will for us as His followers, and create a community of young people who live a compelling life that is different from how our broken world defines success or happiness. I dream of a community where we would choose action over apathy, people over possessions, and grace over judgment. I am convinced that this is most likely to happen when we take seriously the concept that “everyone matters.”

Unfortunately, some Christ followers create division on issues that need action more than discussion. They ask, “How can we go share the Gospel in some distant land when there are so



MEXICALI OUTREACH, MEXICO

PHOTOS BY MISSY FACKLER '15 AND KARL NIELSEN

many unsaved people here?” Others debate the priority of a social Gospel over evangelism (or vice versa). The truth is, God calls us to all of these actions equally. We must not spread the hope of Jesus to the ends of the Earth while ignoring our neighbor, and we must not sacrifice caring for global citizens through the healing power of the Gospel while meeting only our neighbor’s need for personal salvation. The Center for Student Action stands in the gap of this dichotomous thinking by asking students to believe and act as if everyone matters.

We should be concerned when Christians take sides between evangelism and social justice, between the deified power of Christ to save and the incarnational power of Christ to serve, as if these concepts are at odds with each other. Stephen Charles Mott, in *Biblical Ethics and Social Change*, offers compelling reasons why the healthy Church must espouse evangelism and social action. He contends, “The absence of social action hurts the evangelistic witness of the Church. It is easier for a cynical world to dismiss the evangelistic efforts of the Church when the same Church fails to deal with challenging social problems. The message of God’s love makes little sense when the Church appears disinterested in human suffering.”

To avoid this tragic disconnection, we must work hard to live a life message of everyone matters. As the Center for Student Action challenges students to become world Christians who want to make the name of Jesus famous around the corner *and* around the world, the concept becomes a deep conviction causing all of us to consider how we live, pray, and serve. As our students and alumni embrace that concept, they discuss and act upon that conviction, channeling their knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm to aid a hurting world. We see an increasing number of students spending a semester studying around the world; going on a weekend trip to Mexico; working with Azusa children in after-school programs; spending a summer in Ghana, Tanzania, Peru, India, Camden, New Jersey, or Washington, DC; or leading small groups of international students on campus. The Center for Student Action staff remain committed to making sure

EVERYONE MATTERS

How do we
LIVE?
PRAY?
SERVE?

these experiences are not a one-time, “done-my-service” checkoff on a list. Instead, each opportunity builds upon and supports living an everyone-matters life. One of my greatest joys is when students participate in a meaningful intercultural or international experience and return to challenge others in our community to care about human trafficking in Nepal, the plight of the homeless two towns over, or whatever else has profoundly impacted them.

The call of everyone matters sounded by APU’s Center for Student Action becomes crystal clear where the Great Commission and Great Commandment converge. When we really invest our lives in both the Great Commission (to make disciples from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation) and the Great Commandment (to love our neighbor), we manifest an everyone-matters culture that can radically transform the world.

This happens as part of a Responsible Revolution where we challenge and support each other equally to be more than hearers of the Word, but to be intelligent, compassionate, sacrificial doers of the Word—because everyone matters. This Responsible Revolution could very well ignite the future of profound local and international impact fueled by our 113-year mission to equip disciples and scholars to make a Kingdom difference. This side of eternity, we will not know the impact of the sacrificial service made by thousands before us. I pray that thousands more will continue writing the story of eternity from the simple, compelling conviction that everyone matters.

For information on APU’s Center for Student Action, visit www.apu.edu/studentaction/. To see stories about students and alumni living out the belief that everyone matters, visit www.apu.edu/stories/.

Matt Browning, Ed.D., is APU’s associate vice president for internationalization. mbrowning@apu.edu



CITY CENTRAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH, L.A.

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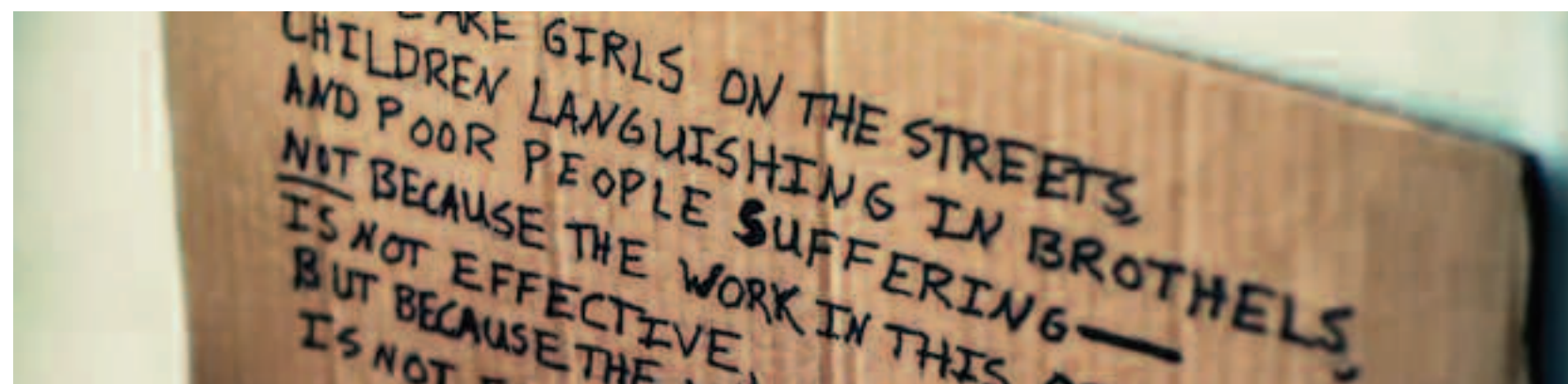
ACTION **PEOPLE** **GRACE**

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Apathy **Possessions** **Judgment**



SOUP KITCHEN, SAN FRANCISCO



KATHMANDU, NEPAL

LOVE
THY NEIGHBOR

BY EVELYN BARGE

a gravitational pull

THE TRIO OF SCULPTURES STANDS IN A FAR CORNER OF THE L GALLERY ON WEST CAMPUS.

They go unnoticed by most, save those few who happen to glance around the bend and spot them—spindly, delicate figures with layers of oxidation imparting tone and texture to frenetic bundles of wire.

Upright on impossibly narrow limbs, the figures spurn the pull of gravity, even as Matthew Ellis, MFA '13, rearranges their pedestals in the gallery.



Ellis's works draw on the artist's real-life experiences, including painful memories of a fractured childhood. Now 28, the Inland Empire native will earn his master's degree next year, but he doesn't always feel so far removed from the abusive home where he and his six siblings sought refuge in creativity. "We had nothing," said Ellis. "We made toys out of the materials around us—paper, foil, boxes. And I did a lot of sketching."

Today, Ellis's dimensional wire sculptures still borrow from the linear energy of drawing that provided an outlet for him at a young age. Creating and displaying such deeply revealing art was nothing if not difficult for Ellis. He started the MFA program in 2009 with a focus on printmaking and graphic design, but his professors and mentors encouraged a creative reboot. "I was holding back," Ellis said. "And, truthfully, I'm still trying to get there."

For scholars like Ellis in the Department of Art and Design, such programs of study lend themselves naturally to a process of self-discovery. "There is a transformative aspect to it," said Becky Roe, MFA, associate professor of art and design. "It's learning how to become more whole. The transformation happens internally and comes out in our students' art-making."

◀ student profile

NAME:
Matthew Ellis, MFA '13

RESIDENCE:
San Bernardino, California

OCCUPATION:
Artist

MEDIA:
Mixed media sculpture

"Now my artwork is much more than that—it's my lifestyle, my communion with God."

—MARISSA QUINN '11, MFA '14



Marissa Quinn '11, MFA '14, discovered the notion of art as something bigger than one's self during her undergraduate studies. "Before that, art was just something that made me a little different, something that I did," said Quinn, who works with mixed media to create large, highly textural paintings that position nature in contrast to the detachment of modern technology. "Now my artwork is much more than that—it's my lifestyle, my communion with God."

William Catling, MFA, chair of the Department of Art and Design, contends that students engaged in the creative process learn to examine and break down the conceptual framework that informs not only their art, but also their faith. "We work with students to define their framework, and how that influences their practice and product," Catling said. "The artist's faith is like water that moves through 50 feet of bedrock. It percolates through and is a natural part of the life of the Spirit moving through them. When artists touch their material, they've integrated their faith into their entire being."



▲ student profile

NAME:
Marissa Quinn '11, MFA '14

RESIDENCE:
San Diego, California

OCCUPATION:
Artist

MEDIA:
Mixed media and oil

PHOTOS BY EVOKEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

▶ student profile

NAME:

Rachel Farrington, MFA '14

RESIDENCE:

Grand Junction, Colorado

OCCUPATION:

Adjunct professor

MEDIA:

Oil and watercolor

That's certainly evident in the case of Colorado resident Rachel Farrington, MFA '14, who describes her body of work as a visual record of spiritual growth. Farrington explores layering in drawing and painting, incorporating reflective surfaces and semitransparent elements designed to evoke the tension between flesh and spirit.

In the course of her studies, Farrington, an adjunct professor of art in Grand Junction, said she's been struck by how current and connected APU's art and design programs are to the contemporary art scene without sacrificing the critical incorporation of Christian faith. "If you want to make a difference in culture, you've got to get into culture first," noted Catling. "And you don't engage with mediocre or unchallenged work. Unless you're in the cultural dialogue, it's hard to make an impact."



But the meeting of modern art culture and religious faith can sometimes be an uncomfortable intersection for serious Christian artists. "Artists are often thought of as challenging people's faith and treading along the edges of society," said Roe. "The secular art world criticizes Christian artists who are perceived as not having a realistic understanding of the contemporary world that we live in."

"The artist's faith is like water that moves through 50 feet of bedrock. It percolates through and is a natural part of the life of the Spirit moving through them. When artists touch their material, they've integrated their faith into their entire being."

—WILLIAM CATLING, MFA
CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN



Recognizing this tension even before entering the Master of Fine Arts in Visual Art program in 2011, Jordan Mullen, a former Marine, said he wanted to glorify God through art by creating a relevant body of work that would be acknowledged in the broader art culture. "I wondered, 'How am I going to make Christian art that anyone is going to take seriously?'" said Mullen. "The MFA program is all about finding yourself as an artist. I'm exploring what I have to say, and because I am a Christian, that essential part of who I am comes through in any art form."

David Weeks, Ph.D., dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, sees no reason for modern Christians to surrender the fine arts, which, at times in history, were almost exclusively created by and for believers and the Church. "The relationship between art and Christianity has become tenuous in recent decades, in part because art is now widely used to represent non- or even anti-Christian points of view," said Weeks. "But God's first act in Scripture is an act of creation, of something good and beautiful. At APU, developing Christian artists are frequently reminded that their work follows in that vein. By creating art that reflects the complexity, the challenges, and the hope we have for the world, artists transform their own lives and the lives of others."

"The MFA program is all about finding yourself as an artist. I'm exploring what I have to say, and because I am a Christian, that essential part of who I am comes through in any art form."

—JORDAN MULLEN, MFA '14

Likewise, artists and designers, mature in their art and faith, stand ready to bear witness as influencers in current culture. "Art has the potential to change people—starting with the artist and then the audience," said Catling. "The role of artists is vital to make the invisible visible."

Steadily, by increments, substantial change becomes outwardly apparent in art students like Ellis.

Today, Ellis's sculptural works are growing, literally, in size and detail alongside his faith and artistic confidence. He cautiously imagines a career in a Southern California museum or gallery—perhaps one of his own. Once impossible, dreams born in the midst of adversity become possible, empowered by the Spirit to defy gravity.

Evelyn Barge is a writer and editor in the Office of University Relations. ebarge@apu.edu



◀ student profile

NAME:

Jordan Mullen, MFA '14

RESIDENCE:

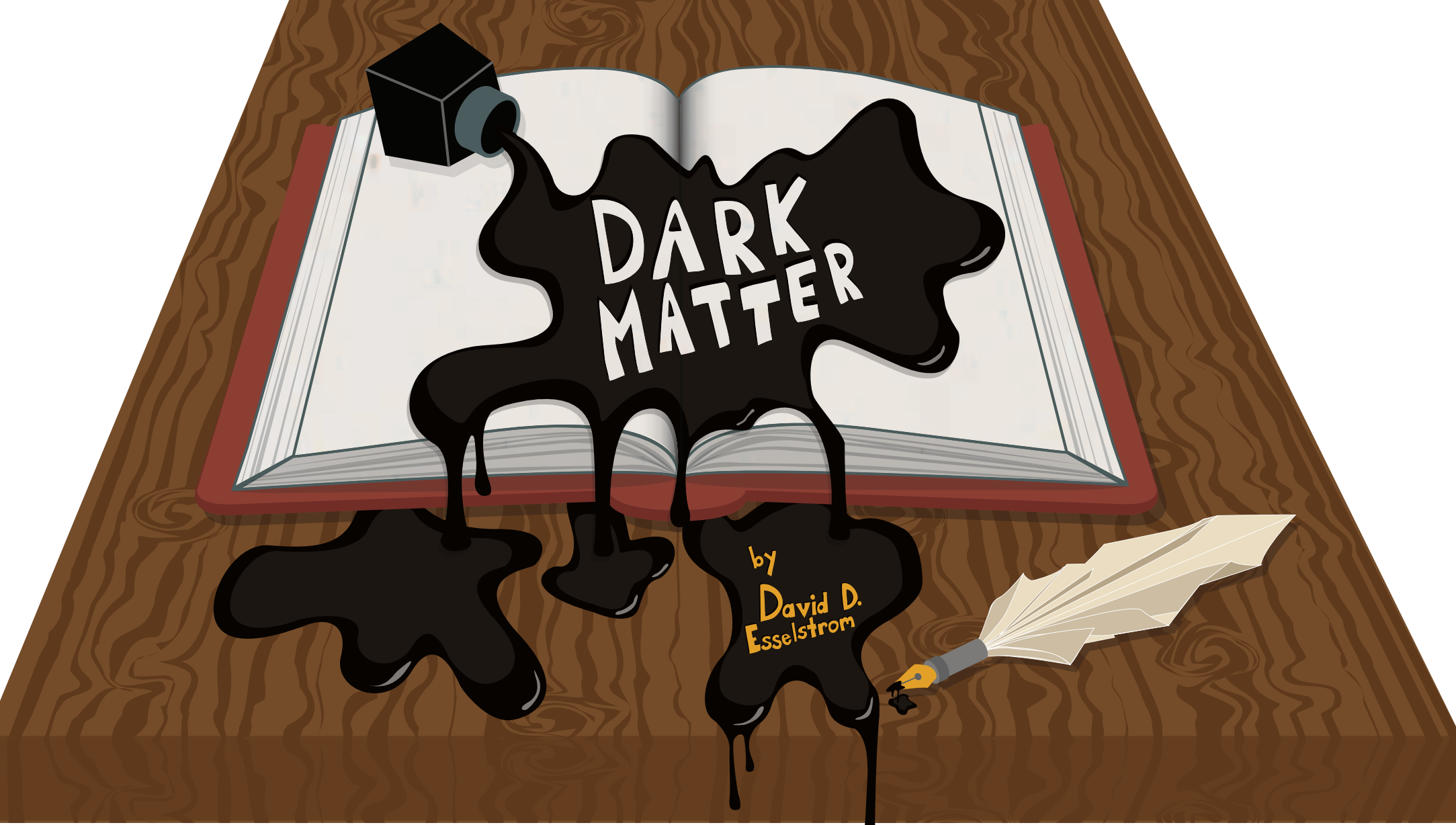
La Verne, California

OCCUPATION:

Artist

MEDIUM:

Acrylic



Astrophysicists hypothesize that dark matter, which neither emits nor absorbs light, makes up 83 percent of the universe. Keep this in mind as you walk into a bookstore and saunter through the young adult and teen fiction sections. Read the titles. Glance at the cover illustrations. Dark matter now seemingly fills 83 percent of the available shelf space.

From orphans pursued by a larcenous relative to wizards battling for control of a magical realm and vampires and werewolves contesting for love and blood, to quasi-gliatorial bouts to decide who gets to live—works by such authors as Lemony Snicket, J.K. Rowling, Stephenie Meyer, and Suzanne Collins become cultural phenomena, filling bookstore shelves and evolving into blockbuster movies. Many parents and educators express concern over the depiction of raw violence and exploration of dark themes in children’s and young adult fiction, not to mention the films that follow them. They ask three questions: Will this material harm impressionable, young minds? Why is such violent,

supernatural, and dystopian fare now popular? What should we do?

First, let’s be honest. Anything can be harmful, especially when filtered through a sinful nature. Even Scripture has been used to justify slavery and the subjugation of women. Challenging works of fiction such as *The Hunger Games* trilogy are not dangerous in and of themselves. In fact, all genre fiction reinforces traditional moral structure.

The values of friendship, loyalty, courage, and honesty play as central a role in these darker works as they do in the *Little House on the Prairie* or *Anne of Green Gables* series. That stories have a beginning, middle, and end conserves our ideals about the nature of time and experience. That actions have

consequences underscores our moral sense of causality. That fidelity to one’s family and friends binds communities to a common good and purpose establishes and perpetuates our attachments to one another. That the hero or heroine ventures out on a quest or mission that tests and challenges these ethical ties and moral verities highlights the strengths of these virtues rather than revealing the weaknesses. In fact, the uncovered weaknesses are perversions of these values.

Young people in 2012 must deal with more numerous and often more insidious fears. The literature in question does not perpetuate or exacerbate the anxieties; it helps young people face, engage, and overcome them.

The adults in these works often are portrayed as clueless, cruel, or well-meaning but ineffectual characters. The youthful heroines and heroes must confront and battle alone the forces of evil. Some fear that these portrayals undermine young peoples’ respect for their elders, but I disagree. First, all stories are told from a particular character’s perspective. Second, as Bruno Bettelheim argues in *The Uses of Enchantment*, his work on the import of fairy tales, young people confront a frightening and dizzyingly complicated world with odds stacked against them. Adults have access to the resources necessary for life, and are not surprised when tomorrow follows today. These works tell young people that they can confront seemingly insurmountable obstacles and not only survive, but also prevail through courage, cunning, perseverance, and friendship.

Why are such works attracting a large readership now? Growing up in the ’50s and ’60s, we all feared nuclear annihilation and the disintegration of civilization. Stanley Kubrick’s *Dr. Strangelove* seemed, for us, a documentary. Walter Miller’s *A Canticle for Leibowitz* and William Golding’s *Lord of the Flies* were not fanciful speculations, but real possibilities. Darker themes in fiction represent responses to deep anxieties permeating a culture. Young people in 2012 must deal with more numerous and often more insidious fears. The literature in question does not perpetuate or exacerbate the anxieties; it helps young people face, engage, and overcome them.

So, what can concerned scholars and parents do? First, we must understand the importance of the larger view. Writing never happens in a vacuum; neither does reading. All reading takes place in the midst of two communities. The first comprises everything created by all of one’s prior reading. The second includes the people around us who, through discussion and interchange, shape our attitudes, opinions, and judgments—friends, family, and classmates. This conversation is crucial, and the point at which adults can make a difference. If we take Ephesians 6:4 seriously, we

will listen to our children and students with respect, patience, understanding, and generosity, and will be sympathetic toward their efforts to understand and engage their world.

Through this conversation, we build the capacity in the young to make moral decisions by themselves and for themselves. It’s not what young people read, but what they do with what they read, that counts. Our interchanges with our children and students enable us to help frame the conversation and contribute to the learning that follows. By engaging with them, even reading the books they read and seeing the movies that shape them, we immunize them against dangers that we may not even perceive and probably cannot understand. Such immunization does not “provoke our children to wrath” but rather promotes understanding and righteousness, and is, therefore, far superior to quarantine.

David D. Esselstrom, Ph.D., is chair and professor in the Department of English. desselstrom@apu.edu



UNITY IN DIVERSITY



PHOTOS BY AARON GIESEL

by Caitlin Gipson

“The Christian response to the balance of diversity and unity should differ from the world’s because we have the commonality of Christ.”

Annie Tsai, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Psychology

When unity becomes the goal, it changes how APU works with students of color. “The focus becomes less on differentness, and more on wholeness,” said Barron. “We start to ask, ‘How can we make sure our ministry context works for everyone? How can we ensure that everyone in our community is academically prepared?’ We have many first-generation college students coming from inner-city schools. What can we do as a university to support students that come from a different path?” The key, according to Barron, lies in the MEL scholars. The merit-based scholarship program seeds the APU campus with young leaders with a heart for diversity and social justice. “These students are pioneers. They can help us understand how to prepare support systems for their brothers and sisters.”

With that in mind, Barron revamped the scholarship program to provide better and more comprehensive support for these students. He also reduced the number of MEL scholars admitted from 12 to 6 each year, and upped the scholarship amount from \$4,500 to \$9,000. MEP staff now work with students individually to establish learning plans for their four years at APU, and retreats and other development opportunities help them ask and answer tough questions like, “Who am I? Where does God want me to go? How am I going to get there?”

The revamped program requires MEL scholars to keep a high grade-point average, serve in a leadership position every year, attend monthly meetings, and help with community service projects. “They encourage us to integrate our beliefs and our life,” said communication studies major Omari McNeil ’12, who has served in New Student Orientation, admissions, and student government. “I’m passionate about racial reconciliation. I’ve learned that I need to find a way to represent that, and be ready and willing to share that perspective as part of my leadership roles.”

Also, in order to expand the program’s academic preparation, Barron added an emphasis on mentoring relationships with faculty, enabling MEL students to assist with diversity- and social justice-related faculty research. “The addition of faculty mentorship is a critical improvement to the MEL program,” said Arlene Sánchez-Walsh, Ph.D., faculty diversity coordinator and associate professor of church history and Latino church studies. “Multiple studies have found that students of color do better in terms of recruitment, retention, and graduation when they establish a relationship with someone who mirrors their experiences.”

Social work major Lauren McNair ’14, president of APU’s Black Women United organization, agrees that the focus on faculty mentoring has made a difference. “On my own, I never would have thought to ask my professor to be my mentor. MEL pushed me to connect with a faculty mentor, and as a result, I’ve gained a bond with someone who can provide insight and speak into my life.”

“This new take on diversity enables APU to more effectively fulfill our Four Cornerstones,” Barron explained. “When we focus on pairing diversity and unity, we treat each other with the compassion of Christ, provide opportunities for transformational Scholarship, begin to experience real Community, and can truly Serve each other and the world.”

“We tend to gravitate to others like ourselves, but that leaves us incomplete,” said McNair. “Contact with those who are different from ourselves changes us, challenges us, and allows us to see a broader world. God made us to need one another. It’s time to start the conversation.”

Caitlin Gipson ’01 is a freelance writer, search engine optimizer, and marketing consultant living in Reedley, California. apucaitlin@gmail.com

“Diversity can become the method we use to usher in the Spirit and will of God into our community.”

Edgar Barron, Executive Director, Multi-Ethnic Programs



WHEN APU REVAMPED ITS MULTI-ETHNIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM, IT LOOKED TO A CORPORATE GIANT FOR INSPIRATION.

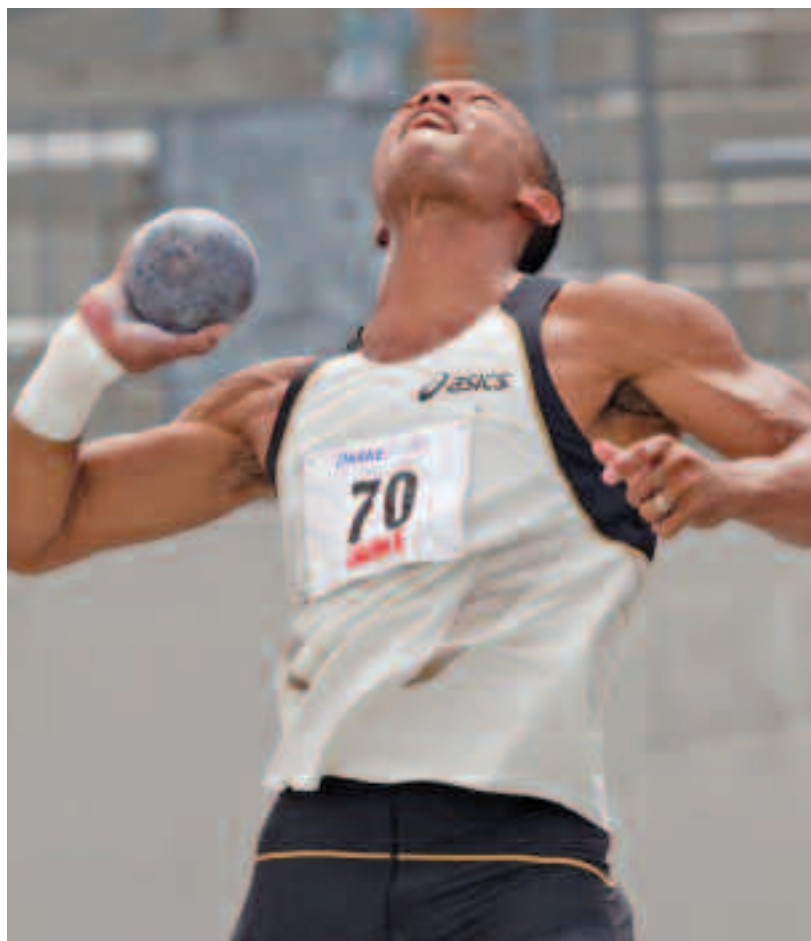
“In the early 1990s, IBM’s leaders realized that a lack of diversity caused the company to miss product opportunities. Their perspective was too narrow,” said Edgar Barron, executive director of the Multi-Ethnic Programs (MEP) at Azusa Pacific University. “The company stopped viewing diversity as a legal and moral requirement, began envisioning it as an untapped competitive advantage, and made huge strides in the marketplace as a result.” When Barron read a *Harvard Business Review* article highlighting IBM’s success, he considered how this concept could transfer to a Christian

university. “Most of the research and discussion in the higher education community focuses on diversity as a virtue—a goal. But what happens when we start considering diversity as a value? What if it becomes a strategy for spiritual success?” These questions resulted in a drastic retooling of the Multi-Ethnic Leader (MEL) Scholarship program and a new approach to diversity at APU.

Barron asserts that the shift from virtue to value has a biblical foundation. “Psalm 133 reads, ‘How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity! . . . For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.’ A diverse and unified community reaps God’s blessings. Diversity can become the method we use to usher in the Spirit and will of God into our APU community.”

Annie Tsai, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Psychology and expert in social and cultural psychology, helped Barron think through the transition’s social dynamics. “The Christian response to the balance of diversity and unity should differ from the world’s because we have the commonality of Christ. As a Christian community, we need to lead the way in defining what unity in diversity looks like.”





PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASICS

BY JOE REINSCH

Success hasn't changed Bryan Clay '03.

For some, winning Olympic gold in the decathlon in Beijing in 2008 would be a crowning achievement—the culmination of a brilliant eight-year athletic career that includes Olympic silver in the 2004 Games in Athens. But now, along with defending that title, Clay strives to become the first in Olympic history to medal three times in track and field's most grueling competition, comprising 10 events over the course of two days.

Pursuing that dream certainly hasn't come easily. His 2012 title defense carries with it additional pressure and media attention as the world's reigning gold medalist, and the physical training introduces an even more daunting challenge as he attempts to defy his own body, which doesn't respond to his rigorous physical routine the same way it did four years ago.

"You can't just go through the motions—you really have to give 110 percent," said Clay. "I'm a little older, and my body is a little more beat up. I've been doing this as a profession for almost 11 years. There are times my knees hurt, or my back, hips, or muscles ache, and it just takes a little longer to recover."

Things have changed, but Bryan Clay hasn't.

He still walks the streets of downtown Glendora, often with his wife and three children, recognized more for his charitable work within the community than for the medals he's won or the commercials in which he's appeared. "Our oldest child is almost seven, and he's starting to realize that not everybody's dad is on a cereal box," said Clay's wife, Sarah (Smith '00), M.A. '04.

Grounded in that reality, Clay pushes through tough training, hoping

his two Olympic experiences might give him enough of an edge in a sport where every ounce of effort can result in an extra hundredth of a second in a sprint, or just one or two more inches on a jump or throw, to make history. "Bryan's a perfectionist," said Azusa Pacific men's track and field Head Coach Kevin Reid '88, one of Clay's primary coaches. "His desire to both understand individual events and the decathlon as a whole is unique. He's technically pretty clean as a sprinter, hurdler, shot put thrower, and long jumper. A lot of other multi-eventers don't approach the event like the specialists they're trying to emulate. Bryan can step into a competition with elite guys in open events and look like he belongs."

As the summer Olympics in London loom larger, the media spotlight intensifies and the pressure of returning to the Olympics as the World's Greatest Athlete increases. He has fulfilled countless media requests and willingly lent his values-based image to a team of sponsors who sought to tie their brands to an authentic American hero whose priorities are in order.


It's faith first, followed by family, and then his career, and that approach hasn't changed since the signature event of his athletic career when he walked


out of the Bird's Nest in 2008 with a gold medal. "After winning, I remember waking up the next morning with the medal on the nightstand," Clay said, "thinking this isn't as great as I thought it would be. Although I didn't do it for the money or fame, and I'd told myself nothing was going to change, I still woke up the next morning expecting to feel different—transformed somehow because of this success. But in the end, it isn't about the medal, or how I feel, or how people view me. It's about the journey and how God refines me along the way. I choose to be content in my life no matter the outcome because my foundation is in Christ."

With that rock-solid faith, Clay anticipates these last competitions and embraces the possibilities of his post-athletic life. "I take it day by day," he said. "I know God has a plan for me."


Joe Reinsch '03 is APU's sports information director. jreinsch@apu.edu


2012 APU OLYMPIC HOPEFULS


 Dominique DeGrammont, attended '02-'03 (110-meter high hurdles, Haiti) can qualify to represent Haiti in the Olympics if he registers a time in competition by July 8 that meets the Olympic "B" qualifying standard of 13.60 seconds. Personal best: 13.44, set two years ago.

 Aron Rono '09 (10,000 meters, Kenya) is expected to compete in a 10,000-meter Olympic qualifier, June 1 in Eugene, Oregon.

 Cedrique Smith '13 (110-meter high hurdles, United States) ran a wind-aided, season-best time of 13.78 at the Mt. SAC Relays in April. Smith needs to post 1 of the top 32 wind-legal times that meet the provisional U.S. qualifying standard (13.99) in order to compete at the U.S. Olympic Trials in June.

 Remontay McClain '15 (100 meters and 200 meters, United States) has come within five-hundredths of a second of meeting the provisional qualifying times in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes. Needs a provisional mark of 10.28 in the 100 and 20.75 in the 200 and rank in the top 32 (100-meter) or top 30 (200-meter) in the U.S. to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Trials.

 Tiffeny Parker '10 (heptathlon, United States) and Breanna Leslie '14 (heptathlon, United States) are ranked among the top 32 heptathlon scores in the U.S. through the end of April. Both must move into the top 18 by June 17 to qualify for the U.S. Olympic Trials.

 Lauren Jimison '12 (10,000 meters, United States) ran a provisional qualifying time for the U.S. Olympic Trials when she came in under 34 minutes in the 10,000 meters at the Stanford Invitational on April 6. However, her time must be in the top 24 in the U.S. in order to compete at the Olympic Trials.

Cougars

SPORTS ROUNDUP

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National Champs

The Azusa Pacific women's track and field team claimed the 2012 NAIA Indoor Track and Field National Championship, edging second-place Oklahoma Baptist by a mere half-point. The title marks Azusa Pacific's third in women's indoor track and field, the seventh overall for the women's track and field program, and it brings the university's total number of NAIA championships to 37. Victoria Martinez '12 wrapped up her college career with individual championships in the mile and 3,000 meters, and she anchored the Cougars' national champion distance medley relay team that clinched the team title.

Martinez was named the meet's Most Valuable Performer, and Women's Head Coach Mike Barnett '83 earned the NAIA Coach of the Year award for the women's indoor season. On the final day of competition, Cougar athletes won six of the eight events in which they competed, and 18 NAIA All-American awards went to Azusa Pacific athletes. The Cougar men's team also posted a top-10 finish, taking ninth place overall behind All-American performances from three athletes.

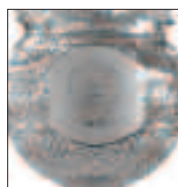


Cougars in the Pros

Former Azusa Pacific baseball star Stephen Vogt '07 joined Tampa Bay's 25-man Opening Day roster to start the 2012 Major League Baseball season. One of his college teammates, Kirk Nieuwenhuis '09, joined him in the big leagues the very next day when he was called up to start the second game of the year for the New York Mets. Vogt and Nieuwenhuis became the fifth and sixth Azusa Pacific baseball players to appear in an MLB game, and they are the first two Cougars to reach the majors as position players.

Three former players from the Azusa Pacific men's soccer program currently play professionally. Steven Lenhart '08, who helped lead the Cougars to the 2007 NAIA title, began his fifth pro soccer season with Major League Soccer's San Jose Earthquakes. Vini Dantas '12, who played three collegiate seasons before he signed a professional contract in Europe, started the second season of his pro career with FK Molde in the Norwegian Premier League. Carlos Ochoa (attended 1996–98), a two-time All-American for Azusa Pacific who played in 10 matches for the Mexican national team over the past decade, has played professionally in Mexico since 1999, most recently with Santos Laguna in Mexico's Primera Division.

Dominique Johnson (attended 2008–10) heads a list of eight former APU basketball players who currently play professionally either in the U.S. or overseas. Johnson, who was invited to participate in an NBA preseason training camp with the Minnesota Timberwolves, stands as one of the top scoring guards for the Texas Legends in the NBA Development League.



Directors' Cup

Azusa Pacific produced four top-10 finishes in winter sports championships to extend its lead in the 2011–12 Directors' Cup program. This year, the Cougars seek an NAIA-record eighth consecutive Directors' Cup trophy, and the 314-point winter total extended its lead to 129 points over the second-place school. The women's track and field national championship earned 100 points, while fifth-place finishes in women's swimming and diving and women's basketball netted another 145 points. The men's track and field team took ninth place at the NAIA 2012 Indoor National Championship meet to garner another 69 points for Azusa Pacific's yearlong tally.



Spring Sports Update

Azusa Pacific's baseball and softball teams spent most of their spring seasons ranked among the NAIA's Top 10, giving both programs an excellent chance of qualifying for NAIA championship tournament appearances. In other spring sports, the Cougars' men's and women's track and field teams were listed among the NAIA title favorites at the national outdoor season championship event, and Azusa Pacific's men's and women's tennis teams were ranked in the top five nationally heading into their respective national championship tournaments in May.

Upcoming Athletic Events

OLYMPICS

July 27–August 12 | Olympic Games | London
August 8–9 | Decathlon | London

FOOTBALL

August 30 | 6 p.m. | Cougars at UC Davis
September 15 | 6 p.m. | Cougars vs. Dixie State | Citrus Stadium
September 29 | 6 p.m. | Cougars vs. Western Oregon | Citrus Stadium

SOCCER

September 1 | Women 5 p.m., Men 7:30 p.m. | Cougars vs. Biola (doubleheader) | First soccer game under lights at current facility

VOLLEYBALL

September 11 | 7 p.m. | Cougars vs. California Baptist | Felix Event Center | Pacific West Conference opener for volleyball
September 15 | 3 p.m. | Cougars vs. Point Loma | Felix Event Center

Upcoming Alumni Events

October 4-11

Colors of New England Trip

Travel through Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine to see the beautiful fall colors of New England. For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at (626) 812-3097.

Thursday, October 18

Alumni, Parents, and Friends Golf Tournament

Kick off Homecoming and Family Weekend with a day at the course, and help raise money for the Student Scholarship Fund at the 28th Annual Golf Tournament.

Friday-Saturday, October 19-20

Homecoming and Family Weekend

An annual tradition at APU, join fellow alumni, students, faculty, staff, family, and friends for a weekend of fun-filled activities.

Notable and Noteworthy

The Alumni and Parent Relations staff and your classmates want to know what's new with you. Upload Alumni Class Notes and photos to www.apualumni.com/classnotes or email alumni@apu.edu.

Are Drugs at Your Doorstep? *by Jim Burns*

Too often, parents deny their children's involvement with or are unaware of their vulnerability to substance abuse. Whether we recognize it or not, drugs are at our doorsteps. But we can equip our children to resist the pressure to use drugs or alcohol.

Start by examining your own attitudes as parents and your behavior toward alcohol and drugs. Children of alcoholics and drug users have a greater risk of abusing those substances themselves.

Do you:

1. Have mood-altering chemicals at home?
2. Use prescription drugs casually when you feel distress or pain?
3. Keep prescription drugs even after the problem subsides?
4. Laugh at or make light of drunken behavior on TV?
5. Wear clothing with drug- or alcohol-related images or allow your children to wear that?

HOMEWORD | AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

6. Watch TV shows and listen to music that glamorizes drug or alcohol use? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you will need to make some changes.

Education

Begin with education. Attend or listen to lectures and get free information from community resources. Know the signs.

High tolerance—Alcoholics have a high tolerance for alcohol.

Gateway drugs—Typically, young people move from lighter “gateway drugs” to stronger ones. For millions of teenagers, beer and wine serve as the gateway to hardcore drug use. Of teens who smoke cigarettes, 81 percent will try marijuana, compared with only 21 percent of nonsmokers.

Prevention

It's worth a pound of cure.

Include God—Studies show that young people who practice a regular quiet time with God and live out their faith have less difficulty resisting drugs and alcohol. Many abstinent kids say they refrain because they do not want

to dishonor God. Studies also reveal that if parents have a visible and vital faith, their kids will be less prone to abuse.

Discipline with consistency—Children who grow up in a home without clearly defined expectations, discipline, and consequences find it more difficult to resist the pressure to use drugs and alcohol.

Intervention, Treatment, and Supportive Follow-Up

If you even suspect a problem, intervene. Be prepared to make whatever decisions are necessary to help your child. Expect challenges along the way, and follow up with support regularly. Most important, start today. Whether you have small children untouched by the issue or using and abusing teens on a destructive path, a proactive drug-proofing plan can literally mean the difference between life and death.

Azusa Pacific University's HomeWord Center for Youth and Family with Jim Burns '75, Ph.D., serves as a research and training institute dedicated to providing biblically based resources for parents and youth to help build healthy families. www.homeword.com

Reserve Your New Alumni Directory

Searching for a job in a new city and wish you could network with a few alumni? Lost track of an old classmate? Looking for other APU graduates in your area? Find your answers in the upcoming APU Alumni Directory.

This will be your go-to, detailed source for all things alumni—but only if everyone responds. Look for a postcard to arrive within the next few weeks that explains how to update your personal and professional profile and purchase the directory if you desire. The information you give will appear in the printed directory and become available to 40,000 fellow APU alumni around the world. Once your postcard arrives, please call toll-free (866) 571-1428 as soon as possible to ensure you are included. It only takes a few minutes, but the reward lasts a lifetime.





by Shannon Linton

In India, more than 250 million people carry the label “untouchable.” Known as the Dalits, they form the lowest rung of the Hindu caste system, which, although officially abolished, continues to dictate social interaction throughout much of the country today. Discriminated against and utterly dehumanized, the Dalits also comprise the largest number of human trafficking victims of any people group in a single nation.

Matthew Cork '91, M.A. '07, and Brent Martz '91 have a vision to transform the lives of the Dalit people—and India's attitudes toward them. Cork, lead pastor at Friends Church in Yorba Linda, and Martz, pastor of creative ministries, see freedom for the Dalit people stemming in part from access to education. To that end, their church has pledged to fund the construction of 200 schools for Dalit children in partnership with Operation Mobilisation, an organization that propels the global Church to share the Gospel and meet needs around the world.

“We originally committed to funding 20 schools in 2005, but I didn't realize how big of an impact we were making until we traveled to India in 2007,” Cork said. While there, he and Martz visited the Dalit schools and some of the slums the Dalits call home, including a pipe village, where hundreds of people live in discarded cement sewer pipes. “Children came up to me from the village and spoke English,” Cork explained. “I was told that they learned English at the Dalit schools, and that because of their education, they

wouldn't have to live in these pipes anymore.” In that moment, Martz said a hush fell over the group. “We all realized we had become part of something much bigger than we could accomplish on our own.”

Cork, Martz, and others on the trip brought their vision for Dalit freedom home to the Friends Church, where they spent the next two years streamlining ministries and church efforts in order to make a bigger impact. Called Global Freedom—empowering tomorrow's generation today—the vision for empowered Dalits has become the church's mission. “We are going to be the catalyst church in the West to free the Dalits in our generation,” Cork said. “The 200 schools we've pledged amount to \$20 million. To make that happen, we've had to change our way of doing things. We're now a church outside of itself and effecting change in the world.”

Martz explained that each completed Dalit school sparks enormous change in its community. “Construction of the

schools creates jobs for the local people who build them, and usually inspires the start of a church in the community,” he said. “And the Dalit women gain newfound empowerment as they learn skills to help their families.” Martz knew he needed to bring the Dalit story back to his church to allow people to witness these changes for themselves. So, he returned to India in 2008 to film the documentary *Deletes*. “Through the film, people experienced the reality of the Dalit life,” he said. After the success of this first film, Martz and *Deletes* director Jon Van Dyke agreed that showing the Dalit plight through a story format would carry even more power than the documentary. Nearly two years after that conversation, with a script finalized and cast and crew ready, they applied for a filming permit in India. What should have taken three weeks to receive took nine months, but they persevered.

After three weeks of filming in India, final shooting wrapped in Orange County, followed by a year of editing. The result—*Not Today*—portrays a powerful story of Caden, a college student who goes to Hyderabad, India, to party with friends. A chance encounter with a Dalit man leads them both deep into India's sex trade to rescue the man's daughter. Martz, who produced the film, explained his passion for capturing stories. “I think the best way to communicate with our culture is through media,” he said. “We are a visual society, so if you can connect with people in a way that they can see, hear, and feel the story, you are able to impact them so much more.”

Not Today will hit theaters in October 2012, with proceeds funding

Dalit schools and ministry efforts in India. “Every time I go to India, I can see the culture progressing—there's less Dalit persecution,” said Martz. “But we can't stop now. We have to keep this in front of our church and in front of the world. We can't give up on this vision for freedom.”

Shannon Linton '07 is a freelance writer and editor living in Covina, California. shannonlinton2286@gmail.com



Learn more about the Dalit people and the efforts to end their oppression:

Dalit Freedom Network: www.dalitnetwork.org

Operation Mobilisation: www.om.org/india

Friends Church: www.friendschurchyl.com/global-freedom

Not Today: www.nottodaythemovie.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATTHEW CORK AND BRENT MARTZ

1970s

KENT BECHLER '79, PH.D., was named the 2012 State Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), and will receive the award at the ACSA Leadership Summit in November. Kent's five years of service as superintendent for Corona-Norco Unified School District paved the way for many successes, including increasing academic scores and advancing technology for students. Kent will retire in August after working in education for the past 32 years. He lives with his wife, **KAREN (HOILAND '78, M.A. '04)**, in Upland. kbechler@cnsud.k12.ca.us

1990s

1 THOMAS CHUNG '93 recently completed a fellowship in plastic and

reconstructive surgery at Johns Hopkins University. He works as a Navy reconstructive surgeon at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, primarily helping veterans who sustained severe combat wound injuries, as well as cancer patients following tumor resection. Thomas and his wife, Nataliya, live in Laurel, Maryland. thomasl.chung@hotmail.com

KURT VAN NOORD '94 serves as the equipping pastor at Maurice Reformed Church in Maurice, Iowa, where he oversees gift-based ministry, leadership and spiritual development, and small groups while equipping people to identify and utilize their spiritual gifts and ministry call from God. He lives in Maurice with his wife, Jenifer, and children, Blaze, 8, and Isaiah, 6. kvannoord@mauricereformed.org

DALLAS STOUT, M.A. '98, PSY.D. '05, received the Linda Kearns Community Prevention Award from the Orange County Substance Abuse Prevention Network (OCSAPN) on September 22, 2011. Founded in 1980, OCSAPN promotes and enhances the quality, quantity, coordination, and cooperation of positive youth development programs and prevention services in Orange County. A faculty member at California State University, Fullerton, Dallas teaches in the Departments of Child and Adolescent Studies and Counseling. In 2004, he co-founded DoctorS Nonprofit Consulting with his wife, **DEBRA, M.A. '02, PSY.D. '05**. They live in Fullerton. www.doctorsconsulting.org

2000s

MANUEL HAMME '00 earned the professional insurance designation

Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) from the educational organization The Institutes, for completing eight rigorous courses and examinations and meeting the ethics and experience requirements. All CPCUs must maintain and improve their professional knowledge, skills, and competencies through their commitment to The Institutes' CPCU Code of Professional Conduct. Manuel also holds an MBA and the ARM and ARM-P designations. He serves as the agency manager for BBT Insurance Services in Glendale, California. MHamme@BBandT.com

JERRY TURNER, M.A. '04, recently published his second book, *So You Are a School Psychologist* (CreateSpace, 2012), a guide for interns and first-year school psychologists. Based on his experience of entering the discipline and

supervising interns in their fieldwork, he compiled this must-know information for school psychologists beginning their career. It is available on Amazon.com.

2 JARED WORLEY '04, MBA '05, works in Africa as a fellow with Vittana, a nonprofit organization that creates microfinance loans to fund children and adults through higher education. He currently works with the Akilah Institute for Women in Kigali, Rwanda, which empowers young women in East Africa to transform their lives by equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to become leaders and entrepreneurs, specifically in the hospitality industry. Jared also works with the student loan program at Urwego Opportunity Bank, a partner microfinance institution. To learn more about Jared's work, visit www.vittana.org or www.akilahinstitute.org. jared.worley@gmail.com

JUST MARRIED

3 MACEO ESQUIVEL '98 to Bri Kennedy on May 7, 2011, in Fullerton. Maceo works for First American Trust Bank in Santa Ana, while Bri works for a nonprofit organization in Fullerton and as a massage therapist. They live in Newport Beach and serve in worship ministry at Friends Community Church in Brea. maceoroyesquivel@yahoo.com

4 TODD AFSHAR '04 to Jane Klimoski on December 17, 2011, at Heinz Memorial Chapel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Todd recently earned a Master of Arts in Intelligence Studies (with honors) from the American Military University in Charles Town, West Virginia. Todd and Jane serve in the United States Air Force. www.facebook.com/toddafshar

5 MIKE NIESCHULZ '05 to Rachael Hileman on August 27, 2011, in Yuba City, California. Both work for California Public Employees' Retirement System,

Mike as a staff programmer analyst and Rachael as an associate government program analyst. mikewandoe@yahoo.com

6 GWENDOLYN (O'CONNELL '06) GUEVARA and her husband, Dominick, wed at South Shores Church in Dana Point, California, on May 30, 2009. Members of the wedding party included **DEBORAH MILLER '07** and **STEPHANIE JOY (REYNOLDS ATTENDED 2002-04) GLUCH**. Gwendolyn and Dominick run their own wedding and family photography business. View their portfolio at www.dominickb.com. They live in Tustin and attend Pathways Church in Irvine. blog.dominickb.com; gwendolyngueva@gmail.com

7 EMILY BAKER '07 to **KEVIN DAVIS '07** at the San Juan Hills Golf Club in San Juan Capistrano on September 24, 2011. Members of the wedding party included **SARA (IOTT '07, M.A. '09) McCOSKERY, KRISTI (DAVIS '02, M.A. '04) SEBELA, VAUGHN**

SPETHMANN '07, PETER DUNN '07, and **LONDON ORSILLO '09**. The couple lives in San Diego, where Kevin is a paramedic and Emily works in real estate.

8 KARI ENGELSTAD '08 to **TYLER BRUNS '08, M.A. '10**, on June 18, 2011. Members of the wedding party included **BRIANNE BAIER '08, EMILY (BAKER '07) DAVIS, CHRISTINA (LARSON '08) KOHLENBERG**, and **KYLE CUMMINS '07**. Kari works as a senior tax accountant and Tyler is a PE teacher. They live in Boise. karebear224@gmail.com

9 SOPHIA ALLAF '09 to Gabriel Shahin on January 8, 2012, in Burbank. While Sophia pursues her Ph.D. in Pathology at the University of Southern California, Gabriel works as an investment consultant for TD Ameritrade. The newlyweds met while teaching Sunday school. They live in La Verne. sophiaallaf@gmail.com

continued on page 33

COUGAR INTERVIEW—ANDERS LINDWALL '08 AND RICKY STAUB '06



When Anders Lindwall '08, a cinema and broadcast arts major, and Ricky Staub '06, a theater arts major, discovered a common goal—to transform the lives of the marginalized through the creative process—they established the Neighborhood Film Company (NFCo), a production company that uses filmmaking to fight homelessness, addiction, and poverty in Philadelphia. Today, NFCo enjoys a growing reputation for creating compelling commercials, Web advertisements, music videos, and narratives.

APU LIFE: What inspired you to start the Neighborhood Film Company?

LINDWALL: In 2010, we were both in Philadelphia and burned out from working and volunteering, and the poverty in the

area began to weigh on our hearts. During several late-night conversations, we wondered if we could shoot films ourselves and hire our homeless friends to work with us. Films are such a communal process; we knew it could serve as both a medium of employment and a vehicle for restoration and hope.

APU LIFE: How do you partner with Project H.O.M.E.?

STAUB: Project H.O.M.E. (PH) is a nonprofit organization that addresses homelessness in Philadelphia through housing, employment, medical care, and education. We develop training for residents so they can work professionally on our productions as well as with other companies.

APU LIFE: What transformation have you seen in the lives of those you work with?

LINDWALL: The first resident to work with us was Elliott Harmon, whose skills have grown from learning to type to operating intricate sound equipment. We have employed him on more than eight productions to date. We caught him at a critical stage—living on government support without much hope. When we needed some transcripts, Elliott worked eight hours a day for two weeks on a typing tutorial, and went from typing 9 words per minute to 100. In addition to his work with us, he now takes classes at PH while working on his GED. He loves coming to work and has even found ways to help family and friends in his community.

STAUB: I think what's amazed me more is how Anders and I have been transformed. I used to be impatient and short-tempered, but this journey has really mellowed me. I'm more faithful in moments of stress because my chips are all in. I'm committed to the point of failure, and that's extremely freeing because I've escaped the pressure of "success." I've also gained more empathy for individuals who come from brokenness. We try to eradicate the helper-helpee mentality and look more at how we can heal together.

APU LIFE: What makes NFCo different from other efforts to fight poverty?

STAUB: There's a reason we are a for-profit company. We hold each other to high standards of excellence. If our product isn't top-quality, then clients won't hire us—plain and simple. Some nonprofits give people in need the false sense that they don't have to work hard to succeed. But for us, if we don't create good work as a team, we're sunk. So everyone becomes very personally involved. I can't afford for Elliott, or any other member for that matter, to be anything but the best. It's incredible to see how pushing someone hard helps him or her rise to the occasion.

APU LIFE: What's on the horizon for NFCo?

LINDWALL: We are developing a nonprofit side to NFCo that will focus on vocational training in filmmaking for adults in recovery. Beyond that, our goal from the beginning was to create a feature film—and we still want to do that. We aim to begin preproduction in 2014. Overall, we want to continue learning to be better storytellers for the sake of our clients and future "Elliots."

To learn more about the Neighborhood Film Company, visit www.neighborhoodfilmcompany.com.



You give. They learn. Together, we change the world.

■ Jared Shimabukuro '13 thought going to Mexico would be a way to complete his service hours for the year. What he didn't expect was that God would use him to change 11-year-old Amari's life. Leading Amari in a prayer to accept Jesus is a highlight of Jared's time at Azusa Pacific.

To hear more of Jared and Amari's story, go to www.apu.edu/video/jared/.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

To give to the University Fund, go to www.apu.edu/give or call (626) 815-5333.

Her Best for the Least



Kenya

by Becky Keife

On the back of a rickety motorbike, three-year-old Osoro clung to his mother's waist as they traversed rocky dirt roads on their way to Kimbilio Hospice. The young mother knew nothing about their destination, except that it was "the place where people are helped." Eight months earlier, her son's face reflected the beauty and radiance of the African sun—before a massive tumor grossly disfigured it. With nowhere else to turn, the fearful mother ushered her son into the hospice, desperately hoping someone could save him.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JULI MCGOWAN

Juli McGowan '01 welcomed the pair, listening to a heartbreaking story of futile attempts to get treatment. Just days earlier, McGowan, a nurse practitioner and the hospice director, watched a documentary highlighting Burkitt's lymphoma, a treatable cancer with a high incidence among children in equatorial Africa. McGowan immediately consulted with a pediatric oncologist working in a nearby town; the next morning, Osoro received a full workup and began chemotherapy. "Osoro's journey to Kimbilio amazes me," McGowan said. "To think that God would choose our facility to be an answer to a mother's prayers, moves me deeply."

McGowan first experienced Africa in summer 2000, when she knelt on the floor of a mud hut to help deliver a baby, and stooped to wash the wounds of a man dying of AIDS. She had no idea that the month-long mission trip to Kenya as an Azusa Pacific University nursing student would begin a decade-long commitment of serving that country's poor and hurting. Upon returning to APU for her senior year, McGowan worked at the AIDS Service Center in Pasadena. "APU prepared me to be a nurse that cares for my patients—physically, emotionally, and spiritually," McGowan said. "But before my trip to Kenya or my time at the AIDS Service Center, I had no interest in working in Africa or the field of HIV. After these two experiences, it was very clear where God was leading."

After graduation, McGowan spent three years working with AIDS patients in the Infectious Disease Unit at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and took two more summer trips to Kenya. By 2004, she had earned a master's degree in nursing and moved to Kenya to work as a nurse practitioner with Empowering Lives International (ELI) in the areas of HIV community mobilization for testing and treatment, and orphan care.

While in Kenya, McGowan witnessed how the stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV intensifies the way AIDS destroys the body, mind, and spirit of its victims. In five years with ELI, she saw countless patients rejected by their families or communities; in the hour they needed support most, they were left in pain to die alone. "God impressed within my heart the need for hospice care in Kenya," said McGowan.

In 2009, the plight of thousands of Kenyans in critical need of palliative care inspired the birth of Living Room Ministries International and the creation of Kimbilio, a 26-bed inpatient hospice for children and adults living with terminal illnesses. Each day, Kimbilio's staff treats more than a disease; they care for a person—physically, psychosocially, and spiritually. McGowan's greatest blessing is seeing Jesus in patients like Eddah, whose physical and spiritual healing now compel her to, in turn, feed her roommate or hold a malnourished baby. "It's always surprising to find Him in the poor and dying, although that's exactly where Jesus said He would be—near the brokenhearted and within the 'least of these.'"

Vicky Bowden, DNSc, RN, WASC accreditation officer, nursing professor, and director of the Honors Program, mentored McGowan and now points to her work as an example of what God can do through students open to His leading. "It is so humbling to see our nursing students take the small kernels of knowledge we share with them and build beyond the dream," Bowden said. "We focus on nursing interventions; they go beyond to be real difference makers, to pursue God's work in ways we cannot even imagine."

Current nursing students will work with McGowan, a 2008 APU Academic Hall of Honor inductee, this summer when the School of Nursing and the Office of World Missions sponsor a short-term missions trip to Kimbilio Hospice. Whether or not the excursion inspires these students to make Kenya their future home, McGowan issues an important reminder that challenges them to consider the call of God upon their lives, to be disciples and scholars who reflect the life of Christ and shine the light of Truth: "God is big, and the way we live our lives matters. Living Room strives to create a community of compassion that honors life and offers hope. This goes beyond a geographical location or a hospice home. What will you do?"

Becky Keife is a freelance writer living in Glendora, California. beckykeife@gmail.com

A Deeper Look

Who does HIV/AIDS affect in Kenya? 1.5 million men, women, and children

What is palliative care? An approach that focuses on symptom relief for people with serious illnesses and improves the quality of life for patients and their families

Why is palliative care needed? In 2010, the Human Rights Watch released a report titled "Needless Pain: Government Failure to Provide Palliative Care for Children in Kenya," which revealed that only 7 of Kenya's 250 government hospitals have access to morphine. The report confirmed what McGowan and her Living Room team know: Kenyan children and adults with cancer and AIDS live and die in horrible agony because they are unable to get palliative care or pain medication.

To learn more about palliative care at Kimbilio Hospice and how you can help, visit www.livingroominternational.org, and follow Living Room on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/livingroomkenya](https://twitter.com/livingroomkenya) or Facebook at www.facebook.com/LivingRoomInternational/.



Every effort is made to publish all photos submitted to APU Life. We apologize if your photo was not published.

continued from page 29

10 MATTHEW NAUSHA '10 to **KIMBERLY MATTES '13** on July 8, 2011, in Dana Point, California. Matt works as the APU central receiving clerk while finishing his master's degree in marriage and family therapy. Kimberly works in the Student Post Office and plans to complete her degree in nursing in 2013.

11 CHRISTINA TEICH '10 to Scott MacIntyre on August 18, 2011, in Scottsdale, Arizona. They followed their music- and love-themed wedding with a honeymoon in Kauai. They live in Scottsdale but spend most of their time traveling, as Scott was an American Idol finalist on season 8 and Christina is his publicist and road manager. Read about Scott overcoming blindness and a life-threatening illness, and about them dating at APU, in his new autobiography, *By Faith, Not By Sight*, in stores now. www.scottmacintyre.com christinahmacintyre@gmail.com

SARAH VRIELING '10 to **BRIAN WILLIAMSON '10** in Merced, California, on May 21, 2011. Members of the wedding party included **RACHEL LINDH '14**, **ELLEN HUSTED '11**, **ETHAN WILLIAMSON '14**, and **RANDY MAY '11**. The newlyweds live in Glendale, Arizona.

FUTURE ALUMNI

12 To **MELODY (JAMES '96) HAMBY** and her husband, Dave, a son, Case Richard, born on July 5, 2011. He joins big brother Marcus, 9, and big sister Hope, 3. Melody, a stay-at-home mom, and Dave, owner of livestock feed supplier West Coast Commodities, live in Washington. 2goldensmom@gmail.com

To **NICK MARTINEZ '96, M.ED. '98**, and his wife, Kerry, a son, Andrew Talan, on March 6, 2012. He joins big brother Cade, 5. Nick is a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy. They live in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

13 To **DANA (WHEELER '96, M.A. '01) WEYGANDT** and her husband, Josh, a daughter, Eden Grace, on March 21, 2011. After teaching junior high and high school English for 13 years, Dana enjoys staying home with Eden. Josh helps

manage Mojave Air Solutions, a heating and air conditioning company in Victorville, California. In January 2012, they moved back to Southern California and live in Apple Valley. dweygandt@gmail.com

14 To **ASHLEY (HICKMAN '99)** and **AARON BALLOU '99**, a daughter, Hannah Harley, on August 1, 2011. She joins big sisters Reese, 6, and Addison, 4. Aaron teaches drafting and computers at Murrieta Mesa High School, where he also coaches cross country and track. Ashley is a stay-at-home mom. They live in Murrieta, California.

15 To **ROBERT '00** and his wife, **CATHARINA (DINWOODEY '01) GILLAM**, a daughter, Evangeline Jessica, on January 17, 2012. She joins big sister Violet, 3. Robert is pursuing a Doctor of Music in Composition at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Catharina is taking a hiatus from her work as a medical social worker to be a stay-at-home mom. Follow their blog at gillamadventures.blogspot.com.

16 To **REUBEN KAPADIA '02** and his wife, Allison, a daughter, Avery Noelle, on March 13, 2011. Reuben and Allison were married on August 29, 2009, in Beverly Hills. Members of the wedding party included **TIM KAPADIA '97**, **MBA '01**, and **KEVIN KURIMOTO '02**. Reuben and Allison teach high school at Opportunities for Learning in Bellflower and Long Beach. They live in Anaheim. reubenkapadia@gmail.com

17 To **TIM '03** and **HEATHER (DAVIS '06) STUCKY**, a son, Nolan Robert, on December 14, 2011. Nolan joins big sister Kayla, 1. Heather is a senior accountant at Monster Beverage Corporation, and Tim is a ministry loan analyst at Evangelical Christian Credit Union. They live in Corona, California.

18 To **EMMA (COLE '04)** and **BABATUNDE ILORI '04**, a son, Temidayo "Dayo" Charles, on January 11, 2012. He joins big sister Oluwatimilehin "Timi" Cielo, 2.

19 To **DANIELLE (PRUITT '06)** and **RYAN CUMMINGS '06**, a son, Asher Michael, on December 4, 2011. He joins older brother Dante, 2. Danielle and Ryan serve as missionaries with World Impact, church planting in inner-city Los Angeles.

20 To **TIM JARED '06, M.ED. '10**, and his wife, Amy, a daughter, Jordyn Faith, on November 14, 2011. She is their firstborn. Tim is the associate director of residence life at Anderson University in Anderson, South Carolina. Amy is a financial aid counselor at Clemson University. They live in Anderson.

IN MEMORY

21 JOHN KUNKLE '39 passed away on March 11, 2012, at age 95 in Wichita. His wife of 58 years, **MABEL (ALLEN '39)**, and eldest daughter, Jane, preceded him in death. After attending the Training School for Christian Workers, John and Mabel moved to Bolivia in 1948, where they were missionaries for 16 years. Upon their return to the U.S., John served the Evangelical Methodist Church denomination as the director of world missions and general superintendent. John was a gifted communicator and enjoyed preaching on the theme of missions. His children, **JOE '66**, Nina, and David, as well as 5 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, survive him.

MERLYN FORDICE '57 went home to be with his Heavenly Father on December 7, 2011. Merlyn served in the United States Coast Guard during World War II and worked as executive chaplain at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose, California, from 1956-85. His wife of 66 years, Rosemary; children **ROBIN (FORDICE '65) DAMRILL** and Timothy Fordice; son-in-law **GEORGE DAMRILL '66**; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren survive him. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Bethany Christian Services of Chattanooga or Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, Mission Fund.

JOHN "HOWARD" ANDERSEN '64 went to be with the Lord on September 2, 2011. He was a third-generation missionary, born and raised in Kenya. He spent his life serving Samburu nomads of northern Kenya as well as assisting missionaries and pastors, baptizing countless Kenyans, helping to start a remote mission station, and planting a thriving church in Kenya on Mt. Kulal and many other churches. Many of the Samburu pastors currently working in the north come from the church he started. Howard's first wife, **DORIS**

(**SHORT '65**), preceded him in death in 2001. Their children, **ANDREW '90** and his wife, Margaret; **TAMARA (ANDERSON '90) KNOWLES** and her husband, R. Cleveland; Philip and his wife, Katie; and Edward and his wife, Rachel, survive him, as does his wife, Virginia, and his grandchildren.

ART JENKINS '66 passed away unexpectedly at the age of 70 on March 5, 2012, at his home in Laguna Beach, California. He was a loving father and a loyal friend, teacher, mentor, and coach. Art taught and coached at Dana Hills and Aliso Niguel high schools, giving his time and energy freely to students and athletes. He was passionate about tennis, beach volleyball, and basketball. His only child, Kymberly Jenkins, and his beloved grandson, Dylan, survive him. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Dylan Jenkins-Schreyer education fund at any Schools First Credit Union, account #691-852-14.

22 DOUGLAS MICHAEL '66 passed away on January 16, 2012, from a heart attack at age 69. He taught special education and coached for 35 years in the Long Beach and Fullerton Union high school districts. He served as director of recruitment and associate athletic director at Pacific Christian College, now Hope University. His wife, Ginny, children **DANIEL M.A. '04**, Abby, and James, and five grandchildren survive him.

LINDA ANN (CAVALLO '76, MBA '78) EDWARDS, age 64, passed away on February 29, 2012, in Independence, Missouri. Linda loved to travel, garden, cook, shop, attend social events, and spend time with her family. Her mother, Anna Cavallo; husband of 37 years, Lowell Edwards; children Robert, John, and Christina; and nine grandchildren survive her.

23 LAURIE (CASEY '78) LEE passed away on December 18, 2011. After graduating from APU, she taught physical education and held a variety of positions with the California Department of Forestry, where she met her husband, Robert. They settled in Scotts Valley, California, where Laurie worked as a teacher for Baymont Christian School for

continued on page 34

CLASS NOTES

continued from page 33

many years and became very involved with the church community. Her father, Roger; children Kristen, Jake, and Jenna; other family; and many friends survive her. A memorial was held January 14 in Twin Lakes.

CAROLYN LAVERY, M.A. '94, passed away on December 22, 2011, following a hard-fought battle with cancer. Carolyn had a passion for learning, taught second and third grade at Mound Elementary School in Ventura for 20 years, and loved to travel. Her husband of 27 years, Mike, four children, and four grandchildren survive her.

KARL COATES '99 passed away on January 20, 2012, at age 55, following a valiant five-year fight against brain cancer. His wife, Christina, who works as a medical assistant in the Health Center at APU, as well as three sons, James, **VINCENT '12**, and Ethan, survive him. A service was held January 28 at Glenkirk Church in Glendora.

JOSEPH HAY, M.S. '05, passed away peacefully in his sleep on January 27, 2012, at age 41. He taught and coached football at several Orange County schools and served as an adjunct faculty member at APU. In 2009, Joe received the ABC7 NFL Coach of the Year Award and the

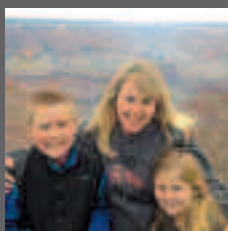
Orange County Register Coach of the Year Award. His wife, Nicole; parents John and Carol; his brother and sister-in-law; grandparents; and many nieces and nephews survive him. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Joe's honor to the Seal Beach Animal Care Center, 1700 Adolfo Lopez Dr., Seal Beach, CA 90740, or the Boys & Girls Club of Huntington Valley, 16582 Brookhurst St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

24 PHILIP OSTERGARD (PROFESSOR 1952-58) passed away on March 12, 2012, at age 91. He loved camping and was a founding member of the Boys'

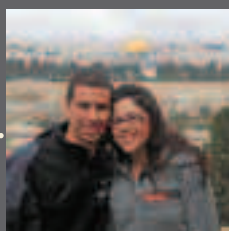
Christian League. In 1964, he began teaching at Rio Hondo Preparatory School when it opened its doors. At Pacific Bible College, Professor Ostergard taught biblical literature. In his later years, he authored a book on Abraham Lincoln, *The Inspired Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln* (Tyndale Press, 2008), and presented lectures on Lincoln locally and throughout the U.S. Philip's brother, Francis; sister, **DORIS (OSTERGARD '49) ROBBINS**; two daughters, Julene Barrett and Joella Andrisano; and six grandchildren survive him. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to a fund to help children.

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU WEARING YOUR APU CLOTHING?

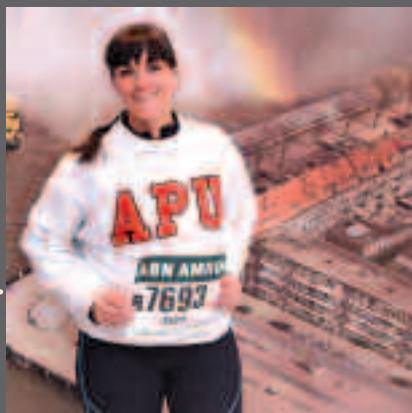
Attention alumni: Send us your photographs of the places you have been with your Cougar wear. If we print your submission, you will receive an APU T-shirt to wear while visiting your next exotic or interesting destination. Send your photos,* along with a description of the location where the photograph was taken, and your T-shirt size, to the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000, or alumni@apu.edu. Or you can add your photo to the Azusa Pacific Everywhere Flickr account at www.flickr.com/groups/apueverywhere/. *Please send high-resolution images or prints only.



RACHEL (NORDBY '97) WHITE, CHARLOTTE AND NATHAN
GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA



MAYRA (BEDOLLA, M.A. '13) AND ERIC LOPEZ
JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

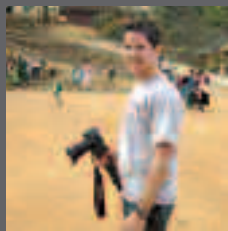


SHELLY (CRABTREE '95) LINKERHOF
ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

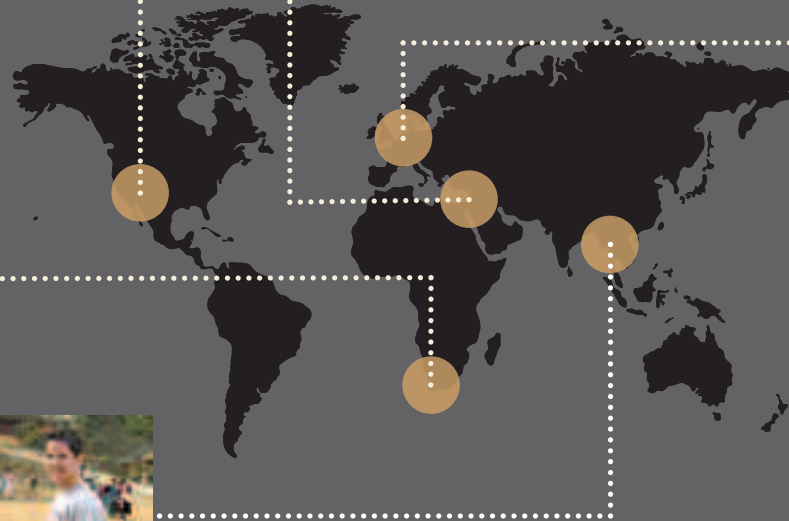
In April, Shelly (Crabtree '95) Linkerhof ran a 10k race at the Rotterdam Marathon in the Netherlands, where she has been living for the past 13 years. She works for Shell Chemicals as the European customer service manager, leading a team of 16 people who are responsible for sales support to customers in Western and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Turkey. Shelly and her husband, Michiel, have been married since 2002 and have two sons: Ian, 7, and Thijs, 4. crabnl@hotmail.com



JESSIE WIRES '13, KELSEY DAHLIN '13, WAILANA SPANGLER '13, MATT TANOUÉ '13, SHAYNA FONG '11, MELINDA MORRISON '12, AND KELLY NICHOLSON '11
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA



STEVEN ALBANO '10
CHIANG MAI, THAILAND





DAVE JOHNSON
APU CIRCA 1987



DAVE JOHNSON
BARCELONA 1992

APU Olympians

The first modern Olympic Games took place in Athens in 1896, three years prior to the founding of the Training School for Christian Workers. More than a century later, both institutions feature some of the world's foremost international athletes. Innocent Egbunike '86, M.Ed. '93, participated in several Olympics Games, taking the bronze medal with the Nigerian 4x400 meter relay team during the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. Representing APU at the 1992 Barcelona Games: Kriss Akabusi '95 won the bronze medal in the 400 meter hurdles, Davidson Ezinwa '94 captured the silver medal by running the anchor leg on Nigeria's 4x100 meter relay team, and Dave Johnson '86 (shown above) earned the bronze medal in the decathlon after

the highly publicized "Dan and Dave" Reebok advertising campaign for the United States. During the 1996 Games in Atlanta, Fatima Yusuf '98-Olukoju earned the silver medal in the 4x400 meter relay for her native Nigeria. And most recently, Bryan Clay '03 took the men's decathlon silver medal in 2004 and the gold medal in 2008 for the U.S., earning the title "World's Greatest Athlete." With unyielding efforts toward excellence in sports, Cougar hopefuls continue to pursue APU's Olympic legacy.

—Ken Otto, MLIS, associate professor, special collections librarian

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